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Celebrity Buzz

Tatum shows off stripper moves for Ellen
pg 34

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VANCOUVER 2010 Games

CONVERSATION Metro Vancouver wants to show the excitement of the next few weeks through your eyes. Readers are invited to email us their best photos taken daily with one image being picked for publication as the photo of the day. The first will be published Monday.

Starting tomorrow, we'll also have bloggers stationed at various Blenz coffee shops around Vancouver to record people's stories and experiences. Join in the conversation at metroblenznewssquad.com. Submit photos and caption information to vancouverletters@metronews.ca. METRO VANCOUVER

Torch relay **Mountain high**

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Former freestyle skier Kennedy Raine, of Whistler, carries the Olympic flame at Grouse Mountain during the Olympic torch relay in North Vancouver yesterday. The flame enters the city of Vancouver today.

Who will light cauldron?

'It's fantastic to have a few secrets,' says IOC director

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

GREG DOWNS and STIG NIELSEN

Speculation abounds that Betty Fox or Wayne Gretzky could be the final torchbearer tomorrow.

The mother of Canadian icon Terry Fox and the Great One topped an informal survey of 50 people conducted downtown Vancouver, in addition to each having Facebook support groups dedicated to them.

In Metro's survey, 12 people wanted to see Betty Fox light the Olympic cauldron, while nine picked Gretzky. The rest of the votes went to Rick Hansen, who carried the torch two days ago, Michael J. Fox and Cindy Klassen.

Vancouver-based environmentalist David Suzuki was also mentioned and there have been rumours that someone of First Nations ancestry would do the honours.

Gilbert Felli, the director of Olympic Games for the International Olympic Committee, said a great effort is made to guard the secret.

"Now people are, 'Oh, the magic, the magic, who is it going to be? It's going to be this one, it's going to be this one, it's going to be this one.' So that's what makes the magic of the Olympic Games," he said.

"I think it's fantastic to have a few secrets."

On Facebook, a 129,000-strong group for Betty Fox says her son "was raised in Vancouver and did more for Canadians and this planet than we will ever know. Let's give his mother another beautiful memory of who and what Terry meant to us."

The Gretzky gang extol the Great One's virtues, including that he is recognizable around the world, a former Olympian and that he was executive director of the men's hockey team that ended a 50-year gold medal drought for Canada at the 2002 Salt Lake City Games.

At a promotional event yesterday, Gretzky aggressively avoided reporters, which only served to fuel speculation he's the final torchbearer.

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian honours

- At the 1988 Calgary Games, 12-year-old figure skater Robyn Perry lit the cauldron, and at the 1976 Montreal Games the honour went to teens Stéphane Prefontaine and Sandra Henderson.

PM attends celebration after protest

CULTURAL CENTRE Prime Minister Stephen Harper delayed a stop on his visit to Vancouver after protesters chained shut the doors at the entrance of the Chinese Cultural Centre where the prime minister was to take part in Chinese Lunar New Year preparations.

More than 150 supporters of Vancouver's supervised drug-injection site rallied against Ottawa's decision to appeal a court ruling in favour of InSite. Police intervened after chains were used to lock up the centre's doors.

"Safety concerns arose after protesters chained and barred the doors to the centre, leaving the people inside the centre with no means of exit," police said in a statement.

Officers removed the chains and there were no injuries or arrests, police said.

"The protest was allowed to safely continue without further incident."

Harper, who is in town for the Olympics, made an appearance after the protesters left.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News on the Move

What's this barcode for?
Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of pg 3

Style pg 28

Brighten up your closet with red

Vancouver Games

Countdown to 2010

Follow Metro as we bring you daily coverage leading up to the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

- Today — Short-track skaters taking aim at Apolo Ohno, page 24

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STIG NIELSEN/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Mayor Gregor Robertson welcomes Gov. Gen Michaëlle Jean to Vancouver House at David Lam Park yesterday.

Jean thanks city for helping Haiti

VISIT Vancouver should be commended for helping Haiti at the same time it works to help its own citizens in need, Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean said yesterday at the city's hospitality house.

It has been almost a month since Jean's homeland was ravaged by an earthquake that killed more than 230,000 people, including her daughter's godmother.

She thanked Vancouver for auctioning off 3,000 Olympic street banners to raise money for Haiti. UNICEF predicts the project will raise as much as $400,000.

STIG NIELSEN/ FOR METRO VANCOUVER

'Completing the circle'

Ex-mayor to welcome torch in old neighbourhood

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

Sam Sullivan has waited a long time for the Olympics to come to his hometown, and tomorrow the former mayor gets to carry the torch through the neighbourhood where he grew up — Commercial Drive.

"It's a real (sense of) completing the circle," Sullivan said. "(Having) to leave my neighbourhood because of my disability, and then to be able to come back and have this ability to connect with my past — it's really quite amazing."

The image of Sullivan, then Vancouver's mayor, receiving the Oslo flag in Turin and spinning in his chair has become iconic and made Sullivan the face of the Games in Vancouver.

"I'm amazed at all the people from different countries (who) ... recognize me (and) still think I'm the mayor," he said.

When Sullivan lost the mayoral seat to Gregor Robertson in late 2008, he told Metro Vancouver he was especially disappointed at not being able to welcome the world as the Olympic mayor.

As for the anti-Olympic protesters who are expected to line the streets for the portion of the torch relay along Commercial Drive, Sullivan said it "doesn't phase" him.

"I'm used to protests," Sullivan said. "It validates me."

PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Former mayor Sam Sullivan waves the Olympic flag at the closing ceremonies for the 2006 Winter Olympics in Turin.

Irish House quiets down after residents complain

DOWNTOWN The Irish House is piping down for now, it's director of sales said yesterday after downtown residents complained musicians and revellers at the hospitality house kept them up at night.

Tania Richards said that with dozens of temporary venues scheduled to open when the Olympics start, the Irish House will be the least of anyone's concerns.

"They're expecting in the (Granville, Robson and Beatty area) 50,000 people," said Richards.

For now, Irish House is doing its part to be a good neighbour at Seymour and Nelson streets.

"We're going with smaller amplifier levels and smaller amplifiers," Richards said. "We've redistributed some of our speakers and we're looking at some Plexiglas options."

Musical acts scheduled for the past two nights were cancelled as the changes were implemented.

"Honestly, it hurt the customer experience. We had more complaints from people inside saying, 'Hey, turn up the music. Let's go, we're here to have a good time,'" Richards said.

"I encourage our neighbours to come down ... for free and experience a little bit of what's going on."

GREG DOWNS/ FOR METRO VANCOUVER

metronews.ca

WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Blogs Style columnist Kenya Hunt and the troubles of packing for a blizzard-blanketed New York Fashion Week

Lotteries

Lotto 6/49	13, 24, 30, 32, 37 & 48 Bonus 49
BC 49	12, 14, 22, 24, 35 & 40 Bonus 23
Extra	8, 38, 61, 66

These results are not official.

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News in brief

COMPLIMENT American speed-skating superstar Apolo Ohno tweeted that Vancouver is the "best place on earth" yesterday. "It is truly beautiful," he wrote to his roughly 48,000 fans. "Just pass some of the rain away. Going2skate."

TORCH The Olympic torch made its way up Grouse Mountain on top of a gondola yesterday, after making a stop at the Lonsdale Quay in North Vancouver. Justin Lamoureux, a member of Canada's snowboard team, "rode" the gondola while holding the torch.

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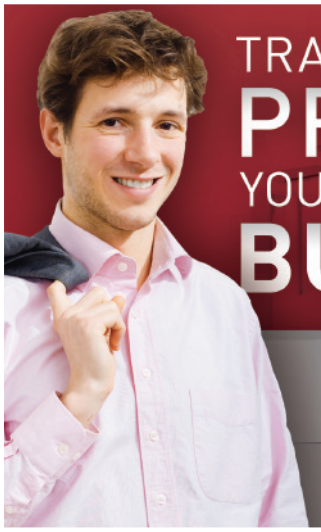

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Helping tourists have a SafeGames
Around 250,000 SafeGames 2010 kits — which include condoms, moist towelettes and hand warmers — are being handed out to tourists around Olympic venues. The kits are being distributed by hundreds of volunteers. METRO VANCOUVER

Planning key to commuting

BeatTheTraffic

Kudos to the many people in the Lower Mainland who are leaving their cars at home, and taking public transit.

We need to keep that up because the rolling closures continue today with the torch relay hitting the Tri-cities and Burnaby.

In Vancouver, traffic continues to be slow moving along the alternate routes to the closed Georgia and Dunsmuir viaducts. Pender, Hastings and Main streets remain the hardest hit.

On the flip side, major routes like the Port Mann, Alex Fraser and Pattullo Bridges are extremely light during the rush hours. At one point during Breakfast Television we were all convinced that it must be a Sunday. So, at least there is some good that comes with the bad.

Today, we also see restrictions go into place on the Sea-to-Sky Highway with permit-only travel between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Tomorrow is a big day as the pedestrian corridors will be installed in downtown Vancouver. Also tomorrow, the Cambie Street Bridge is scheduled for another closure, this one from noon until midnight. This is for the opening ceremonies, which are expected to attract massive crowds.

Vancouver has never seen anything like this before, so allowing yourself a lot of extra time and planning ahead is key.

Watch Michel weekday mornings on Breakfast Television and her nightly Traffic Forecasts on Cityty, cable 13.

Tip of the day

- Here are some websites you should already have on your "favourites" list: www.travelsmart2010.ca and www.translink.ca.

Game on! Olympic road hockey

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ski jumper Trevor Morrice, from Calgary, plays road hockey in the Canadian area of the Whistler Olympic Village yesterday.

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Flag raising Harper visits village

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prime Minister Stephen Harper poses for pictures with Canadian Olympic athletes at the flag-raising ceremony yesterday in the athlete's village.

Richmond's O Zone features 'legendary' Heineken House

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

CELEBRATION SITE Vancouverites and visitors looking to celebrate the Olympics outside the hustle and bustle of downtown need only hop on the Canada Line to stretch their legs and find 60 acres of Games-related activities.

Richmond's O Zone — a sprawling celebration site at city hall near Brighouse Station — opens tomorrow and is set to be the hub of Olympic activity in that city.

"We're the largest of the official celebration sites," said city spokesperson Ted Townsend, adding that everything is free.

There will be a replica of the Canada Arm, an exhibit on the history of skating with a 3,000-year-old skate, a concert stage that will host Our Lady Peace, jumbo screens and an outdoor rink.

The Netherlands' legendary Heineken House is expected to draw the biggest crowds at the venue, said Townsend.

The hospitality house takes up two hockey arenas and features, among other things, several restaurants and bars, a health club, merchandise shops and a giant celebration hall where spectators can watch the Dutch team compete on TV.

"When we win medals, that night the Dutch fans will be here wearing orange to celebrate with the athletes," said Freek de Wette, international sponsorship manager for the house.

"It's going to be a party."

Evenings and weekends

- O Zone will be open from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. on weekdays and noon to 11 p.m. on weekends from Feb. 12 to Feb. 28.

News in brief

SENT HOME Two RCMP officers have been sent home from their jobs protecting the Games because of "conduct issues," cknw.com reports. ISU Chief Bud Mercer said the members didn't "meet the RCMP code of conduct," but added they hadn't done anything illegal. It's not clear why they were let go.

IMMIGRATION There was a 10 per cent increase in the number of immigrants and refugees coming to Canada through Vancouver last year compared to 2008, according to SUCCESS, an organization that helps new arrivals. There were more than 43,500 new immigrants at YVR in 2009, with The Philippines replacing China as the lead source country for immigrants.

COLLISION A 47-year-old Langley crossing guard was send to hospital after being hit near Parkside Elementary School. The driver of a Ford Mustang was ticketed. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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The Great One and the premier
Wayne Gretzky and Premier Gordon Campbell were on hand for yesterday's opening of The Olympic Rendezvous @ Samsung pavilion. METRO VANCOUVER

Surprise act set to open Hockey House

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

JEFF HODSON
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JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Mark Hickox, left, and comedian Sean Cullen (wearing one of the hostess' dresses) rock out during a preview of Molson Canadian Hockey House yesterday.

Vancouver's massive cathedral to hockey is sure to draw pilgrims this weekend as the puck drops on Canada's religion.

Molson Canadian Hockey House (MCHH) is a massive 65,000-square foot pavilion at the Concord Place community celebration zone on northeast False Creek.

Its enormous flap zips up tomorrow to kick off 16 nights of music, comedy, beer and hockey.

"(We want) to show the world that Canada is the best place to party," said Jordan Bitove, president of VisionCo, the company behind MCHH.

Acts like Sam Roberts, Barenaked Ladies and Tom Cochrane will perform along with comedians like Brent Butt and Sean Cullen.

More than 350,000 cans of Molson Canadian will be poured.

Vancouver rocker Bryan Adams is rumoured to be the surprise guest who will kick off the festivities Friday night.

"There's a lot of artists who have sold over 80 million albums," said Tyler Stewart, drummer for Barenaked Ladies and entertainment director at MCHH.

That unnamed artist "may have purchased their first instrument for a really low price, and practised on that instrument until they did themselves some physical injury," said Tyler, referencing Adam's Summer of '69.

Bob Nicholson, president of Hockey Canada (also a partner in the MCHH), said it was the first time he'd seen an Olympic pavilion dedicated to a single sport.

A portion of the massive tent, dubbed Hockey Canada Lounge, is separated off for members of Team Canada and their families.

Use your mind to control Niagara Falls, CN Tower

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

PAVILIONS Not only will visitors to Ontario House be able to sample some of that province's finest craft brews, they'll also be able to control the lights at the CN Tower, Parliament and Niagara Falls — with their minds.

The spacious pavilion, one of six at the Concord Place community celebration zone, features a number of cool demonstrations, including a 4-D movie and a 3-D game that doesn't require 3-D glasses.

Up against a wall, concealed by some wooden lattices, are a trio of Clockwork Orange-esque chairs with headsets that monitor brain waves.

Varying your state of mind allows a person to change vibrations in the chair, the music in the speakers and — coolest of all — lights at those three iconic Canadian landmarks.

Ontario House, along with the Maison du Quebec and the Saskatchewan Pavilion, are part of a free family entertainment zone located east of B.C. Place along False Creek.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Chef Heinrich Messen makes maple cotton candy at Maison Du Quebec yesterday.

It also houses the massive Molson Canadian Hockey House, a modest Right To Play tent and an extremely modest — roughly 215 square feet — modular housing display by B.C. Housing.

The Maison du Quebec, a giant white cube with no roof, promises food, music, dancing and "joie de vivre."

During a tour yesterday, chefs offered up tourtiere, maple cotton candy and maple taffy.

Saskatchewan Pavilion has an entertainment hall that features Saskatchewan musicians, barbecue bison burgers and Saskatoon-berry pies. It also has a six-storey air-supported dome.

Sustainability a tricky goal, VANOC warns

REPORT Be prepared for vastly differing expectations on what sustainability means, organizers of Vancouver 2010 have warned planners of subsequent Olympics.

Linda Coady, VANOC's vice-president of sustainability, said people's notion of the concept varies widely and can be entirely environmental or strictly social.

"It's an area where an organizing committee can face very high expectations," said Coady yesterday as VANOC unveiled its fourth annual sustainability report.

Coady's other advice to London 2012 and Sochi 2014 includes having adequate resources and buy-in from all parts of the organizing committee.

METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

FRAUD TRIAL A trial date has been set for May 3 in the B.C. Rail corruption case. Former government employees Dave Basi and Bobby Virk are accused of fraud, breach of trust and accepting bribes for allegedly trading confidential information involving the sale of B.C. Rail to CN Rail.

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Canadians say 'Happy Valentine's Day' to veterans

Canada's veterans living in long-term care facilities will feel the love from across the country with the delivery of special valentines created by fellow Canadians. More than 20,000 valentines have been received by Veterans Affairs Canada for its annual Valentines for Vets program. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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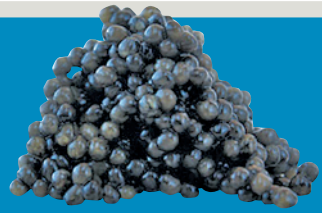

PETA picks on premier

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals has sent Premier Danny Williams, who is recovering from heart surgery, a vegan alternative to seal meat. PETA called it "veggie kelp caviar, which has the salty flavour of seal meat but none of the harmful fat." The premier's office called it a "crass" attempt to build support for PETA's anti-seal-hunt cause. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stand tall, chief tells the troops

CRIME Canada's chief of defence staff told soldiers at CFB Trenton yesterday to stand tall and proud amid stunning allegations their base commander murdered two women.

Gen. Walter Natynczyk said it has been a tough two days since Col. Russell Williams was charged with first-degree murder. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Giant retail chains boycott oilsands

Two large U.S. retailers have announced they won't buy fuel derived from Alberta's oilsands as part of their efforts to fight climate change.

Organic food store Whole Foods and home furnishings chain Bed, Bath and Beyond are believed to be the first major companies to tell their fuel suppliers they don't want gasoline or diesel refined from crude oil coming from the oilsands.

Refining the oil emits significantly more carbon dioxide than the production of other fuels.

"We lead on issues," Whole Foods vice-president Michael Besancon said yesterday.

"That's what we do and it's what's expected of us."

Whole Foods has 289 stores in three countries.

Bed, Bath and Beyond has 1,000 stores in the U.S. and Canada. Its new policy says the company will prefer fuels with lower greenhouse gas emissions.

Andrew Frank of the environmental group Forest Ethics, which worked with the two firms to get them to make the move, said he expects more businesses to make similar moves.

> **"We lead on issues. That's what we do and it's what's expected of us."**
> Michael Besancon, Whole Foods VP

Whole Foods says the move will affect about 400,000 U.S. gallons of fuel the company buys from oilsands-derived crude.

Alberta budget documents reveal the oilsands are to become the primary source of energy revenue.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

It's not kid's stuff **Flame's giant journey nears end**

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Children cheer as the Olympic torch relay passes by in North Vancouver, B.C., yesterday. The flame is on a 106-day journey across Canada in the longest domestic torch relay in Olympic history. It will end with the lighting of the Olympic cauldron at the opening ceremonies tomorrow.

PM's going for PR gold

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

HAZARDS With the Games just a day away, Prime Minister Stephen Harper is preparing for an Olympic marathon — of speeches and photo ops.

Harper was here, there and everywhere in Vancouver yesterday, ending the day with a flag-raising at the athletes' village.

Today, he was scheduled to jump to Victoria for the first-ever speech by a PM to the B.C. legislature.

And the following evening, Harper will help open the Games at a glittering ceremony — kicking off 15 days of photo ops for politicians of all stripes.

It's what's called the "euphoric bounce."

If the country feels good about the Winter Games, chances are they'll feel good about the politicians.

But it can be perilous.

Ask former sports minister Otto Jelinek about the 1988 Games in Calgary.

"The good thing about the '88 Winter Olympics being over ... is that it means Otto Jelinek won't be turning up in our living rooms every half hour," wrote one journalist.

Jelinek might have been forgiven for exuberantly hoisting Elizabeth Manley aloft on national TV after she won a figure-skating silver medal. He was not.

Stephen Harper: Everywhere.

Another journalist summed up the Calgary Games by describing Manley's performance as creating "yet another fawning attempt by Sports Minister Otto Jelinek to get his mug on camera."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

How to honour a good neighbour

HELP OTHERS Do you know someone who should get a Get There Award? Canadians are encouraged to nominate friends or neighbours who go beyond the call of duty to get to games and practices involving young athletes.

The nomination form is at goodyear.ca. The Goodyear contest closes Friday, March 5, at 11:59 p.m. ET.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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ScanLife

Organizer's emergency plan for Cypress planned years ago, but were inspired by Whistler instead. Scan this code for the story.

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Minister has Parkinson's
Saskatchewan Finance Minister Rod Gantefoer says he has been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, but it won't keep him from doing his job. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Trade deficit widens

But exports rise for fourth straight month

Canada posted its worst trade performance in more than three decades last year as the global recession and a strong loonie hammered exports.

Statistics Canada reported yesterday that the country's merchandise trade deficit widened to $246 million in December, bringing the shortfall for 2009 to $4.8 billion.

That is the first annual trade deficit in the goods sector since 1975 and a total reversal of fortune from last year's $47-billion surplus.

But there's light at the end of the tunnel, say economists, noting that exports increased for the fourth straight month, by 1.7 per cent, in December.

The recent uptick means trade will modestly contribute to gross domestic product growth in the fourth quarter of 2009 after being a major drag throughout the year, economists said. "We're digging ourselves out of the hole, but it is a pretty big hole," said economist Peter Buchanan of CIBC World Markets.

Despite the fall increase, exports remain 27.5 per cent down from their peak in July 2008.

The December deficit was more than twice consensus expectations, but it was the kind of deficit that economists say bodes well for the economy.

The imbalance was not due to an outright export decline, which would indicate economic production had fallen off, but rather to a bigger-than-expected 1.8 per cent growth in imports.

Bank of Montreal economist Douglas Porter said that even the rise in imports comes with a silver lining since it shows Canadians are spending.

"(But) at this point the more important issue is whether the economy is actually turning the corner or not, and continuing growth in both exports and imports is a good sign."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Trade deficit

$4.8B Shortfall in 2009

$47B Surplus in 2008

Online town hall **All-ages event**

THE CANADIAN PRESS/PAWEL DWULIT

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff, left, participates in a online town hall meeting with Liberal youth and multiculturalism critic Justin Trudeau in Ignatieff's office on Parliament Hill yesterday.

CSIS: Keep Douglas file secret

INTELLIGENCE Canada's spy agency is pulling out all the stops to block the release of decades-old intelligence on socialist icon Tommy Douglas.

In an affidavit filed in Federal Court, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service argues full disclosure of the file could endanger the lives of confidential informants and jeopardize the agency's ability to conduct secret surveillance.

Shirley Douglas

Indeed, CSIS suggests its very raison d'etre would be imperilled by releasing the information compiled on the one-time Saskatchewan premier and federal NDP leader, widely revered as the father of medicare.

The battle over Douglas' intelligence file began in November 2005, when reporter Jim Bronskill made an Access to Information Act request for the RCMP dossier on the fabled prairie preacher-turned-politician.

Paul Champ, Bronskill's lawyer, said CSIS's argument would mean all intelligence files must remain secret in perpetuity.

Douglas' daughter, actress Shirley Douglas, has also filed an affidavit supporting full disclosure.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Obese woman wins Quebec human rights case

PARKING A morbidly obese Quebec woman with numerous health problems has won her legal fight for a better parking spot.

Not only has Marise Myrand won a parking upgrade outside her condominium, but her condo association has been slapped with a $10,000 penalty by the Quebec Human Rights Commission for refusing her request.

The 57-year-old resident of Ste-Marie, Que., weighs 389 pounds, suffers from diabetes, needs a wheelchair and gets help breathing from an oxygen tank.

Myrand first approached her condo association in the summer of 2005 to try to get a parking spot closer to the building's entrance.

The condo association refused, saying the spot was already in use by someone else. Myrand was able to prove that the woman who already had the spot was not disabled.

A friend of Myrand said she was subjected to "not very flattering" comments during a general assembly of condo owners in January 2006. The tribunal concluded that she had suffered numerous humiliations since 2005, and said condo association members had made insulting remarks about her.

In presenting its defence, the condo association accused the human rights commission of abuse of power and of causing damage to other property owners.

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Minister embarrassed over inmate release
The Quebec government has expressed embarrassment and anger over the erroneous release of dozens of prison inmates. Public Security Minister Jacques Dupuis says he's feeling a bit of shame over the reported errors, and hopes the province's correctional officials are just as embarrassed. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada will support more Iran sanctions: PM

Canada supports further sanctions on Iran, says Prime Minister Stephen Harper as he pledged to use his G8 presidency to stop Tehran's "worrying" nuclear ambitions.

"Canada will continue to work with our allies to find strong and viable solutions, including sanctions, to hold Iran to account," Harper said in a statement yesterday.

"Canada will use its G8 presidency to continue to focus international attention and action on the Iranian regime."

Harper's remarks came after the Obama administration announced it was imposing new sanctions on several affiliates of Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps.

"Canada will use its G8 presidency to continue to focus international attention and action on the Iranian regime."
Prime Minister Stephen Harper

The measures target one individual and four companies for their alleged involvement in producing and spreading weapons of mass destruction.

The U.S. administration is pushing for additional international sanctions on Iran because of its decision to step up its uranium enrichment and its failure to prove that its nuclear ambitions are entirely peaceful.

The U.S. is lobbying the United Nations Security Council, which has already imposed sanctions on Iran.

Harper called on Iran to immediately suspend its enrichment activity, and show "transparency and compliance" by stopping construction of new enrichment sites and co-operating with inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Harper's comments came after France and Russia acknowledged that it was becoming necessary to discuss further sanctions on Iran.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tory minister named amid scandal

NOVA SCOTIA Nova Scotia's spending scandal continued to widen yesterday after the Speaker's Office released a list of expenses filed by politicians over a three-year span, including those of a former Tory cabinet minister who bought 11 computers, 12 printers and a video game with public funds.

The six-page expense claim list for Len Goucher revealed that the former immigration minister had spent $9,238 on items classified by the province's auditor general as electronic technology items between 2006 and 2009.

Len Goucher

The computer and printer purchases had been listed in a report on excessive and inappropriate expenses released last week by auditor general Jacques Lapointe, who didn't include names.

Speaker Charlie Parker released the breakdown of expenses after Premier Darrell Dexter requested him to do so.

"Some of this information I got late Monday evening. I hadn't really had time to fully look at it, but now that I have, I agree it's the right thing to do," Parker said.

Last week, Goucher came forward to admit that he'd bought three MP3 players for $150, but said he'd given them to three local schools.

He did not return messages seeking comment.

The expense list shows that among his purchases was a video game called Dance Dance Revolution Universe for Xbox 360 at a cost of $100. The list also reveals all three party leaders expensed furniture and electronics.

Dexter spent $9,248 on six computers and a digital camera. Interim Tory Leader Karen Casey spent $300 on an electric fireplace. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Comment

Wedding frills not needed

I am fortunate enough to have many friends and an impossibly huge extended family. As a result, I have been to a LOT of weddings.

Every wedding I've attended has been special in its own way. But some stand out more than others.

If there were Olympics-style scoring in place for weddings, they would be ranked using the following criteria:

1. Company
2. Emotion
3. Quality of food
4. Overall memorability
5. A distinct lack of "The Chicken Dance"

I went to a wedding that scored off the charts this past weekend. The best part was that I didn't even know it was happening.

My dear friend Lindsay invited family and close friends to celebrate her boyfriend Lee's birthday at a French bistro. The couple are expecting a baby next month and were making a big deal out of this particular birthday because, in Lee's words, it would be the last time they'd ever be seen in public.

Before the main course, Lee stood up to make a speech. He thanked everyone for coming and casually announced that he and Lindsay had gotten married earlier that day.

The birthday celebration suddenly became something else.

It's a wedding that I will remember much more vividly than all of the evenings featuring taffeta, extravagant floral arrangements, smoke machines and cheesy DJs playing Kool and the Gang.

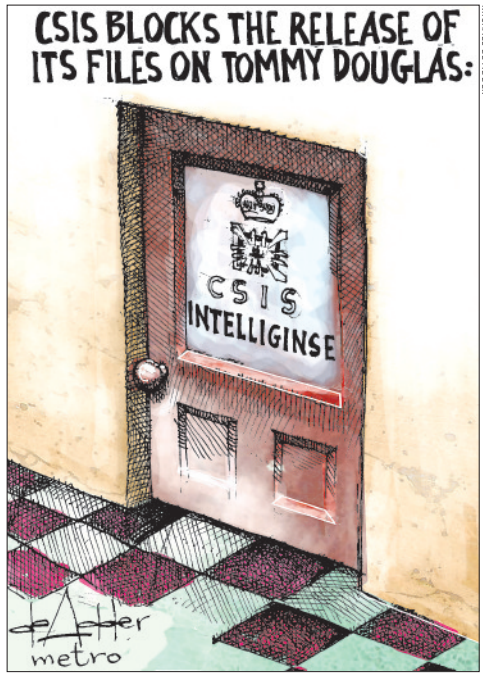
There was no cake. No dance floor. No ice sculptures. No bridesmaids. But none of these trappings were missed.

Because this low-key affair had everything that makes a wedding great: The wine flowed. The food was gorgeous. The bride looked beautiful in a black maternity dress that she scored for 50 per cent off and a string of pearls with sentimental value. The speeches were tearful and sincere. And most importantly, the couple were surrounded by 25 people who love them.

Days later, I still well up whenever I think about it. It was perfectly imperfect. It was the best wedding I have ever attended and I will remember it for as long as I live.

Those of you planning weddings might fall into the trap of mistaking frills for needs. It's not a competition. It's about doing it in a way that makes you happy and reflects your personalities. Get married the way you want (if you choose to get married at all) and it can't be anything but wonderful.

Sofi Papamarko is a 20-something writer based in Toronto. Her heroes include Desmond Morris and Nancy Sinatra.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Views

Half-baked arguments derailing feminism

I was riding the streetcar this week when I heard a woman in her early 20s loudly declare to her friend that she hated feminists. Naturally, I yanked off my headphones to hear the rest. "Feminists ruined everything," she insisted. When her friend pushed her to elaborate, she answered simply, "They killed chivalry."

I rolled my eyes and popped my headphones back on. But I couldn't help reflecting on all the unusual attacks I've heard directed at feminists recently.

First, there was the blogger in Quebec whose terrifying blog — which celebrates Marc Lépine, the man behind the Montreal Massacre, as a "folk hero" — got him arrested for threatening women.

Then there was the National Post editorial — seemingly out of the stone age, but actually published just a few weeks ago — that blamed women's studies programs for "untold damage to families, our court systems, labour laws, constitutional freedoms and even the ordinary relations between men and women."

When compared to these two examples, the chivalry comment seems innocuous enough, and yet it offers a similarly half-baked argument. I didn't get involved in the conversation, but if I had, my reply would've sounded something like this:

Never mind the fact feminism won you your right to vote, your ability to get a mortgage without a husband co-signing and a hope in hell of maybe (and it's still a big maybe) making the same salary a man makes — you're ticked off because it's reduced the number of old-school Prince Charmings in the world? Really?

The Oxford English Dictionary defines chivalry as "a man's courteous behaviour, esp. towards women."

There's nothing wrong with wanting to live in a world filled with men who are courageous, courteous and motivated by a sense of justice and honour. But don't you also want to live in a world where women are free to be the exact same things?

Melinda Mattos is co-founder of feminist teen magazine Shameless. Visit www.shamelessmag.com

Letters

Re: Paul Sullivan's 5 reasons to suspend your 'belief'

Ah, come on! Please don't tell me we've got such sore sports out there that they still oppose the greatest event on Earth as it unfolds. One would think that after losing fair and square in their opposition to the Olympics that they'd hop on the bandwagon and be good natured hosts to the reps of the world now flooding our city. I hope all those out there who opposed these Games will realize that it has now become a wonderful opportunity for Vancouverites to have a tet-a-tet with fellow human beings from around the world.

STEPHEN VERRY, VANCOUVER

Re: Opening with a bang

Did I read the story correctly this morning about people complaining about the Irish? I am Irish-Canadian, and I have news for you Vancouver: Get off your high horses and join us. You party with us on St. Patrick's Day and you don't complain, but then after, the city closes nightclubs and pubs. Let's go Ireland. The complainers are not real Canadians, they are what's wrong with this country. Rich and far too powerful.

FRANK RIZZO, VANCOUVER

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Brazilian judge OK's 7-year-old as Carnival queen

A Rio samba group says a Brazilian judge has ruled that a seven-year-old girl can parade as its drum corps Carnival queen — a role usually reserved for sultry models and actresses. Children's rights groups say it's too erotic for a young girl. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Kenya moves prey closer to lions

Kenyan authorities plan to restore the predator-prey balance in one of the country's premier game parks after a recent drought — by moving thousands of zebras and wildebeests closer to the lions. At the end of a three-week operation, the Kenya Wildlife Service aims to relocate 4,000 zebras from different parts of the country to Amboseli National Park. In March, after the wildebeests have finished giving birth, the service plans to move 3,000 of them to the same park. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Strike over spending cuts brings Greece to standstill

LABOUR A strike by civil servants shut schools and grounded flights across Greece yesterday, as unions challenged cuts aimed at ending a government debt crisis that has shaken the entire European Union.

Air-traffic controllers, customs and tax officials, doctors, and teachers walked off the job for 24 hours to protest sweeping government spending cuts that will freeze salaries and new hiring, cut bonuses and stipends, and increase the average retirement age by two years to 63.

The strike left state hospitals working with emergency staff only and disrupted national rail travel.

"It's a war against workers and we will answer with war, with constant struggles until this policy is overturned," said Christos Katsiotis, a representative of a communist party-affiliated labour union.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Help on the way?

- Despite the strikes, markets reacted positively to signs wealthy European countries are closer to rescuing Greece. Stocks in Europe rose yesterday for the second day on expectations of action to prevent a debt default that could spread to other EU countries.
- EU leaders are to discuss Greek's economic woes during a summit today in Brussels.

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More snow hits U.S. East Coast

A second blizzard in a week swept up the U.S. East Coast yesterday, dumping historic snowfalls that shut down U.S. government offices and the United Nations in New York and paralyzed airports.

MANUEL BALCE CENETA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Emily Tibbott skis past U.S. Capitol police officer Sean Whitehead as he stands guard on Capitol Hill in Washington yesterday. The second blizzard in a week struck the area yesterday.

The storm dumped more than 25 centimetres of snow on parts of the Washington area that already had been hit with about a metre of snow over the weekend. Nearby Baltimore reported record snowfall.

"It's hard to find anything in the history books of these types of storms back-to-back," said National Weather Service meteorologist Stephen Konarik.

The wind started blowing in gusts from 40 to 70 km/h in and around Washington. Driving conditions got so bad that city officials pulled plows off the roads.

New York, which avoided last week's blizzard, was not so lucky. The National Weather Service issued blizzard warnings and predicted 25 to 40 centimetres of snowfall. The city's 1.1 million students enjoyed a snow day — the third in about six years.

Snow was falling from Virginia to Connecticut by early yesterday after leaving the Midwest, where the storm was blamed for several traffic deaths.

About 230,000 federal workers in Washington have been off since Friday, when the first storm began. The U.S. House of Representatives announced it was scrapping the rest of its workweek. Several meetings in Congress and federal agencies were postponed. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Orphanage director dies a hero saving kids from fire that killed 11

BLAZE A South African orphanage director died a hero, rescuing nine children as their home burned, media said yesterday

The blaze early Tuesday killed Sarah Holland, the founder of the Hope of Christ Home in KwaZulu-Natal province, along with two adults and eight children between the ages of four and 15. Holland, known as Granny, gathered the children into the only room without burglar bars, according to one of the children. "Granny passed us all the little babies," said Zanele Nkosi, 11. "I gave the babies to my friend and we put them (on) one side and waited for others."

The cause of the blaze remained under investigation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hosted at home

- Sarah Holland had operated the orphanage in her home on a small farm. The fire killed three of her grandchildren.

Taliban defences tested ahead of strike

MARJAH U.S. Marines fired smoke rounds yesterday and armoured vehicles manoeuvred close to Taliban positions to test insurgent defences before a planned attack on the biggest militant-controlled town in Afghanistan's south.

A NATO spokesman called on militants holding Marjah to surrender. But a Taliban spokesman boasted that the militants were prepared to "sacrifice their lives" to defend the town.

The date for the attack by thousands of Marines and Afghan soldiers has not been announced for security reasons.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

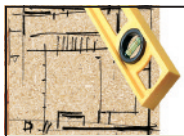
News in brief

BABIES A Texas man and his girlfriend were given nine years in a Mexico jail for recruiting Mexican women to sell their babies to U.S. couples. Amado Torres and Maria Isabel Hernandez paid women up to $3,000 for their newborns, a Tamaulipas state judge said yesterday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Identity Theft

The Eastside; Physiotherapy & Rehabilitation Clinic (formally known as East Vancouver Rehabilitation centre) experienced a robbery in the early hours of Feb, 2nd 2010. A CPU containing personal information (names, addresses, phone numbers and personal health card numbers) of patients who have attended this clinic between 2002 and 2010 was stolen. This information was encrypted but could still be accessed by professional hackers. A Moneris machine used to process credit and debit card transactions was also stolen. Please, if you are one of those affected keep a vigilant eye on your account. The RCMP, The Office of Information and Privacy Commissioner for B.C., College of Physiotherapy of BC and The Medical Services Plan of B.C. have been notified.

If you are one of those patients, we advise you to call 604-693-7151. (MSP)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Dubya returns on billboard
A group of small business owners have put former U.S. president George W. Bush on a Minnesota billboard. The tagline: "Miss me yet?" THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A man who identified himself as Evans Monsigrace, 28, is attended at the Salvation Army medical centre after being brought in by two men in Port-au-Prince Monday.

Fruit, water may have saved trapped man

Haiti Crisis

The tale seems dubious: that a rice vendor survived 27 days trapped under the rubble of a flea market following Haiti's devastating earthquake.

Skeptical health workers said no one could live that long without water and the last confirmed survivor found was a 16-year-old girl removed from rubble 15 days after the Jan. 12 quake. The only sources for the story were the two Haitian men who showed up at a clinic carrying the vendor, dehydrated and malnourished with rail-thin legs.

But then the patient became lucid enough to tell his tale Tuesday. And while his account has not been independently verified, doctors now say the 28-year-old man could have survived on water and possibly some fruit beneath the rubble.

The man — identified as Evans Monsigrace — told doctors he had just finished selling rice for the day at a downtown Port-au-Prince flea market when the quake hit. He said he didn't suffer any major injuries and was trapped on his side in an area where food and drink vendors were selling their goods.

"Based on that (his story), we believe him," said Dr. Dushyantha Jayaweera, a physician at the University of Miami Medishare field hospital where hundreds of patients have been treated since the quake.

The story began when two men first took the vendor to a Salvation Army medical centre in Port-au-Prince on Monday, saying he had been trapped since the earthquake. He was later moved to the University of Miami hospital because of his critical condition.

"He came in delirious, asking to die," said Nery Ynclan, a University of Miami media officer in Haiti, noting that Creole translators were at the field hospital. Ynclan said the rice vendor was in stable condition Tuesday and being treated for dehydration and malnutrition.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Death toll

- The Haiti quake killed 170,000 people, the Haitian government said Tuesday.

News in brief

AVALANCHES Helicopters ferried rescuers to and bodies away from the site of massive avalanches that blocked an important mountain pass north of Kabul as the death toll soared yesterday to over 160, officials said. Hundreds more remained trapped in snowbound cars.

ACCIDENT A TV news helicopter pilot steered his crippled, out-of-control aircraft away from a busy highway before crashing in a grassy field during rush hour yesterday in Sao Paulo, Brazil, losing his own life but avoiding greater casualties. A cameraman onboard was seriously injured.

DEATH A knife-wielding Palestinian police officer killed an Israeli soldier yesterday as he sat in a jeep stopped at a traffic light in the West Bank, the military said, in a rare case of violence recently in the territory.

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Asper children resign from Canwest board

David and Gail Asper, the son and daughter of Canwest Global Communications founder Izzy Asper, have resigned from the media conglomerate's board to pursue other interests and help shrink the board's size as the company restructures. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Business in brief

REVENUES Bioniche Life Sciences Inc. recorded its first-ever quarterly profit at the end of 2009, boosted by revenues from a licensing agreement with an American firm.

PUBLISHING Printing company Transcontinental Inc. is dramatically reducing its U.S. presence after agreeing to sell its American direct mail operations to IWCO Direct of Minnesota for an undisclosed price.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

INTERNET Google Inc. plans to build a handful of experimental, ultra-fast Internet networks in the U.S. to ensure that tomorrow's systems can keep up new advances. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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ScanLife

U.S. Fed chairman Ben Bernanke unveils inflation-fighting plan to reel in stimulus cash flooding the economy. Scan this code for the story.

Air Canada loses $56M in Q4, far less than in '08

AVIATION Air Canada beat expectations yesterday by reporting that it lost $56 million in the fourth quarter, a dramatic improvement from the same period in 2008.

The quarterly loss at Canada's largest airline would have been even bigger if not for $108 million in gains on foreign exchange.

The latest quarterly net loss amounted to 25 cents per diluted share, compared with a loss of $7.27 per share in the fourth quarter of 2008.

Operating revenues dropped by $150 million to $2.35 billion from nearly $2.5 billion in the same quarter of 2008.

Analysts had expected a loss of 69 cents on $2.3 billion of revenue.

$727M

In the fourth quarter of 2008, the Montreal-based airline firm had a net loss of $727 million, including $527 million in foreign exchange losses.

Revenue fell for a number of reasons, including less passenger travel because of the weak economy, greater fare discounting and reduced fuel surcharges.

"Over the past year we have overcome tremendous challenges to begin 2010 with satisfactory liquidity, reduced unit costs and measurable customer satisfaction improvements," said president and CEO Calin Rovinescu.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Honda recall rises over faulty airbags

Hundreds of thousands of cars need to be fixed

Honda Motor Co. is adding 437,000 vehicles to its 15-month-old global recall for faulty airbags in the latest quality problem to hit a Japanese automaker.

The company will replace the driver's side air bag inflator in the cars because they can deploy with too much pressure, causing the inflator to rupture and injure or kill the driver.

Japan's No. 2 automaker originally announced the recall to the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in November 2008 and the total of number vehicles recalled since then is approaching one million. The latest expansion of the recall includes 378,000 cars in the U.S., some 41,000 cars in Canada and 17,000 cars in Japan, Australia and elsewhere in Asia. The North American recall was announced Tuesday and followed yesterday by the recall in Asia.

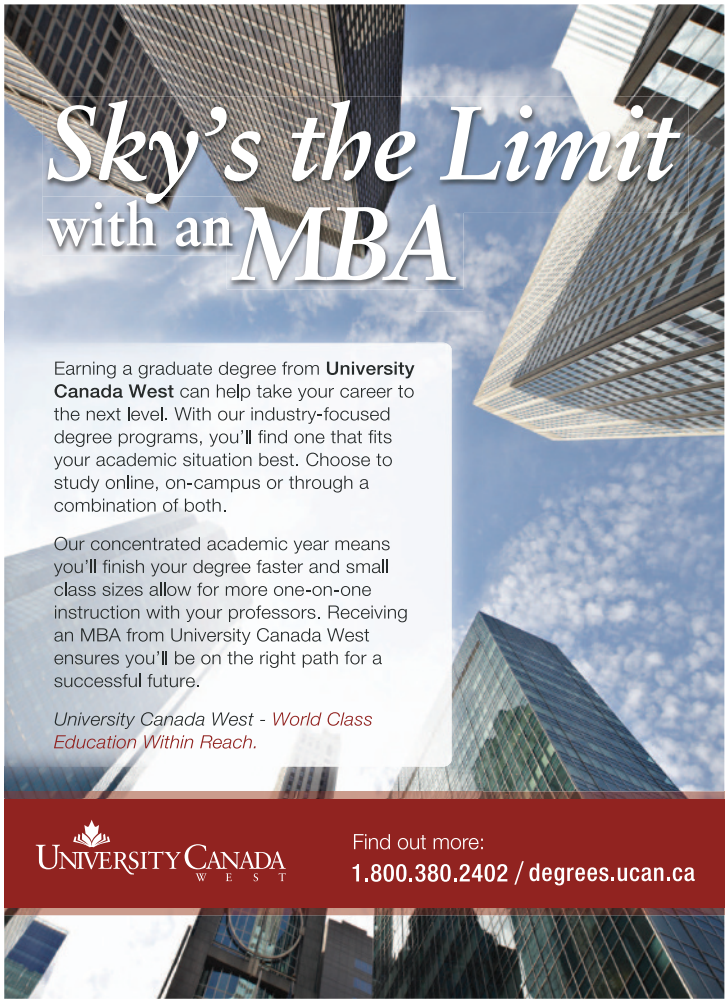
Honda's announcement comes at a time of increased attention on automotive recalls. Though the problems are unrelated, rival Toyota Motor Corp. is in the process of recalling more than eight million cars and trucks due to faulty gas pedals. On Tuesday, Toyota said it would recall more than 440,000 of its flagship 2010 Prius and other hybrids due to a braking glitch.

"There is a heightened sensitivity right now to anything to do with recalls," said John Mendel, executive vice-president of sales for American Honda.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SHIZUO KAMBAYASHI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

Honda Motor Co. said yesterday that it is adding 17,000 more cars in Japan and elsewhere to an existing global recall for faulty airbags, bringing the latest round of recalls to 437,000.



Canadian Living 2010 BEST NEW PRODUCT Voted by Consumers ~ powered by BrandSpark ~

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*Formula biodegradable after 28 days using test method OECD301D
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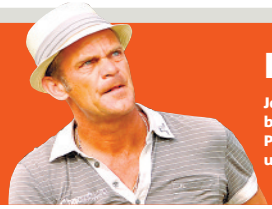
No purchase necessary. 3 contestants chosen in each city: 1 grand prize winner & 2 runners up. Grand prize is valued at $500 including a Best New Products gift pack Rexall Gift Card. Contest closes Friday, March 12, 2010. For complete contest details, rules and regulations visit metronews.ca/bnpa.

WHAT DID CONSUMERS VOTE FOR?

Cut forces Gaborik out of lineup

Rangers leading scorer Marian Gaborik missed New York's game against Nashville last night because of a cut on his right leg caused by the skate of teammate Henrik Lundqvist one day earlier in practice. Gaborik, who has a team-high 35 goals and 69 points, was ruled out by Rangers coach John Tortorella about two hours before game time. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports



Parnevik fears career is over

Jesper Parnevik, left, says he will likely have to quit golf because of a broken vertebrae in his lower back. Parnevik, a five-time winner on the PGA Tour, told Swedish tabloid Aftonbladet that doctors say he needs to undergo joint fusion surgery, "which means I can't play anymore."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Ovie's Olympic trash talk has begun: Teammates

LOCKER ROOM TALK With only a few days to go before the start of the Olympic hockey tournament, Russia's Alexander Ovechkin says he's not thinking about it yet. Nor has he begun engaging in some friendly trash talking with his Swedish, Czech, Canadian or American teammates on the Washington Capitals, he claims.

"No, not yet," Ovechkin said yesterday prior to the Capitals game against the Montreal Canadiens. "After (our last) couple of games, (then) we're going to talk about it."

But Ovechkin's friend, linemate and Olympic rival Nicklas Backstrom of Sweden tells a different story.

"There's a bit of trash talk going on," Backstrom said. "But nothing that big."

Ovechkin will be joined on the Russian team in Vancouver by his Capitals teammates Alexander Semin and Semyon Varlamov, with Backstrom and Tomas Fleischmann of the Czech Republic rounding out Washington's list of five Olympians.

But even though Ovechkin insisted he wasn't doing any trash talking, he betrayed his own words only a few minutes after saying them.

Alex Ovechkin

When asked about the 14-game win streak the Capitals were riding into Montreal and whether he had ever been on a similar run at any other level of hockey, Ovechkin didn't have to think very long to come up with a snarky answer.

"World championships, probably, when we beat Canada (in 2008)," he said with a big, gap-toothed smile going from ear to ear, before adding, "in the final."

Capitals defenceman Mike Green is another Caps player who attests that Ovechkin is probably the team's biggest pre-Olympic trash-talker, in spite of what No. 8 himself claims. THE CANADIAN PRESS

No apologies from Braley

Lions, Argos owner has no plans of selling either team

B.C. Lions owner David Braley isn't apologizing for buying the Toronto Argonauts, saying he's simply doing what's in the best interests of the CFL.

"I love the CFL game and I love the league," the Hamilton businessman said yesterday. "The Toronto market is far too important.

"If Toronto strengthens, Hamilton strengthens, southern Ontario strengthens and the CFL office strengthens because it can get more sponsorships."

On Tuesday night, the Argos announced co-owners David Cynamon and Howard Sokolowski had reached an agreement to sell their club to Braley in a move that had been rumoured for weeks.

"Howard and David worked very hard and they had passion," Braley said. "They increased the season-ticket base and they increased the corporate sponsorship.

"They did an awful lot for this franchise."

Still, Braley, 68, takes over an Argos club that's hit hard times. It posted a league-worst 3-15 record last year and has won just seven total games in missing the CFL playoffs the last two seasons.

KEVIN FRAYER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

With his recent acquisition of the Toronto Argonauts, Lions owner David Braley now owns 25 per cent of the league.

Earlier on Tuesday, the club hired Jim Barker as its new head coach, two months after Bart Andrus was fired after just one season. The Argos remain behind other CFL clubs at this time of the year because of the delays caused while the ownership issue was resolved.

"We realize we're a little bit behind the curve, given the number of things that have been up in the air," president Bob Nicholson said during Barker's introductory news conference."

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Braley said he has no plans of selling either of his CFL franchises any time soon — he expects to own one or both teams until at least age 75, health permitting — and is committed to strengthening the Argos on and off the field.

"We're going to restart the rebuilding process," he said.

"You never know when somebody will come along and say, 'I have a real interest in acquiring that.'

"At that time, then you talk to them. But until we get it stronger, it's too soon to discuss that."

And Braley feels the Argos are in better shape than the Lions were when he bought that franchise.

"This is a year or two ahead," Braley said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wild netminder Backstrom returns to lineup after seven games

NHL Minnesota Wild goalie Niklas Backstrom was back between the pipes last night against Phoenix for the first time in seven games.

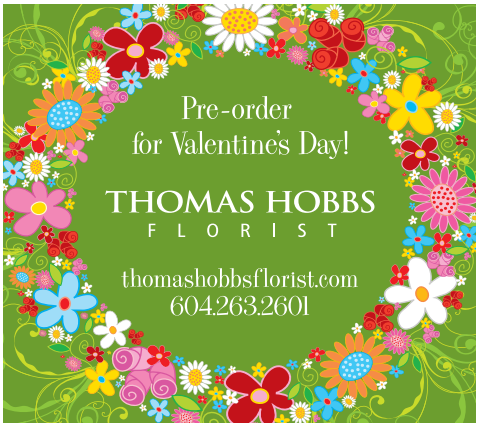
After missing Minnesota's previous six games with a combination of back problems and an undisclosed illness, Backstrom had 28 saves in the Wild's 3-2 home loss to the Coyotes.

The Wild took Backstrom off injured reserve earlier yesterday to face the Coyotes.

With the loss, Backstrom is now 1-3-1 in his last five starts.

The 2009 All-Star is 22-17-4 with a .901 save percentage and a 2.75 goals against average. Those are his worst totals since entering the NHL with the Wild three seasons ago.

Goalie Josh Harding is still fighting a hip injury, leaving Anton Khudobin in the Wild's backup role. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



MICHAEL REGAN/GETTY IMAGES

Tim Howard of Everton claims the ball under pressure from Didier Drogba of Chelsea during the Barclays Premier League match between Everton and Chelsea at Goodison Park yesterday in Liverpool, England.

Chelsea's lead getting smaller

Chelsea crashed to a 2-1 loss at Everton yesterday and saw its Premier League lead trimmed to a point by Manchester United, which drew 1-1 with Aston Villa.

Louis Saha missed a penalty but still scored twice for Everton after Florent Malouda put Chelsea ahead, with the French striker's goals doing a big favour for former club United, which survived Nani's sending off to earn the point at Villa.

Arsenal recovered from its weekend loss at Chelsea to close the gap on Chelsea to seven points as Abou Diaby's second-half strike clinched a 1-0 victory over Liverpool.

"We believe in our title chances and you could see that Chelsea again lost tonight and Manchester United dropped points, it is still open," Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger said. "I don't see any mathematical reason why we shouldn't believe."

A lacklustre match at Emirates Stadium was settled by Diaby exploiting a gap in the Liverpool defence to head in Tomas Rosicky's cross. Arsenal survived late scares when Ryan Babel struck the crossbar and Cesc Fabregas appeared to handle Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard's late free kick while in the penalty area.

West Ham and Wolverhampton moved out of the relegation zone with victories and are level on 24 points, one above the drop zone. Hull is also on 24 after losing 1-0 at Blackburn.

Alessandro Diamanti and Carlton Cole scored the goals as West Ham enjoyed a 2-0 win over Birmingham. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"We believe in our title chances ... I don't see any mathematical reason why we shouldn't believe."
Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger

SCOREBOARD

NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Montreal 6 Washington 5 (OT)
Anaheim 3 Edmonton 2
Colorado 4 Atlanta 3 (OT)
Columbus 3 San Jose 0
Nashville 2 N.Y. Rangers 1
Philadelphia 3 New Jersey 2 (OT)
Phoenix 3 Minnesota 2
Pittsburgh 3 N.Y. Islanders 1

TODAY'S GAMES

VANCOUVER at Florida
Washington at Ottawa
Buffalo at Carolina
Boston at Tampa Bay
San Jose at Detroit
Dallas at Calgary
Edmonton at Los Angeles

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Toronto 104 Philadelphia 93
Charlotte 93 Minnesota 92
Golden State 132 L.A. Clippers 102
L.A. Lakers 96 Utah 81
Miami 94 Atlanta 76
Milwaukee 97 New Jersey 77
New Orleans 93 Boston 85
Orlando 107 Chicago 87
Portland 108 Phoenix 101
Sacramento 103 Detroit 97

TODAY'S GAMES

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San Antonio at Denver

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U.S. basketball squad has many returning faces

LeBron James, Dwyane Wade, Kobe Bryant, Toronto Raptor Chris Bosh and five other members of the reigning Olympic champion basketball team are back on the U.S. national roster of 27 players. The players chosen yesterday will be candidates for this summer's world championships and the 2012 Olympics in London. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vikings fans trying to persuade Favre

Last summer, coaches and players lobbied Brett Favre to join the Minnesota Vikings through text messages, phone calls and in-person visits.

This year, the public has started the persuasion process for them.

Driven to show their appreciation for Favre's storied first season with Minnesota, a group of Vikings fans has taken out advertising space on a digital billboard near the 40-year-old quarterback's home in Hattiesburg, Miss.

"Hey No. 4, do Minnesota fans love you and want you back next year? You Brettcha!" the message reads.

"Hey No. 4, do Minnesota fans love you and want you back next year? You Brettcha!" Billboard message to Brett Favre

The ad came from a Facebook group that has grown to more than 122,000 people as of yesterday. Jay Tappe of Minneapolis decided to create the group the day after the Vikings lost to the New Orleans Saints in the championship game.

"We never really got to give Brett a good send-off or a standing ovation or anything, because they finished the season on the road," he said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bosh leads Raps to 8th straight home victory

NBA The Toronto Raptors head into the NBA all-star break on a roll, but the Philadelphia 76ers made them work for it last night.

The Raptors won their eighth in a row at home, surviving a furious fourth-quarter comeback in a 104-93 victory over the 76ers. Chris Bosh led the Raptors with 23 points and 12 rebounds.

The victory ties the franchise record for wins at the all-star break. Toronto was 29-21 in the 2001-02 season and 29-24 in 2006-07. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports in brief

BASEBALL A source requesting anonymity says the Atlanta Braves have made an offer to free-agent outfielder Johnny Damon. Atlanta's offer is believed to be for one year and include deferred money. Damon's agent, Scott Boras, has said he is seeking at least a two-year deal.

MARINERS The Seattle Mariners have signed right-hander Jesus Colome to a minor league contract with an invitation to their spring training camp. The 32-year-old Colome appeared in 21 games last season with the Washington Nationals and Milwaukee Brewers. He will compete to be a veteran setup reliever for closer David Aardsma.

SOCCER Chelsea crashed to a 2-1 loss at Everton yesterday and saw its Premier League lead trimmed to a point by Manchester United, which drew 1-1 with Aston Villa. Arsenal closed the gap on Chelsea to seven points as Abou Diaby's second-half strike clinched a 1-0 victory over Liverpool.

CFL Andre Talbot and fellow Canadian receiver Brad Smith were traded by the Toronto Argonauts to the Edmonton Eskimos yesterday for import defensive tackle Eric Taylor and a conditional pick in the 2011 draft.

BOXING Canadian Steve (the Canadian Kid) Molitor is getting a chance to regain the IBF junior featherweight boxing title March 27 at Rumble at Rama XI. Molitor will go to the ring against South African Takalani Ndlovu for the vacant title.

NFL New York Jets Pro Bowl defensive end Shaun Ellis is recovering from surgery on his broken left hand and should be ready in time to participate in most off-season workouts. Ellis told The Associated Press yesterday that the procedure, during which screws were inserted into the hand, was performed last Tuesday, two days after he played in the Pro Bowl.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

vancouver 2010

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Carter would replace Getzlaf: Source

Jeff Carter will take Ryan Getzlaf's spot on Team Canada if the Anaheim Ducks centre is unable to play because of injury, a source told The Canadian Press yesterday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver Games

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Injury may keep Vonn out of Games

SKIING Lindsey Vonn is worried a badly-bruised right shin will keep her out of the Vancouver Olympics, a startling announcement so close to the start of an event shaping up as a showcase for the U.S. skiing star.

Vonn revealed yesterday that she was injured in a slalom training run Feb. 2 during a pre-Olympic practice in Austria. It was her first trip down the slopes of what was supposed to be three days of practice.

Lindsey Vonn

"I'm sitting here today questioning whether, you know, I'll be even able to ski," Vonn said at a news conference. "I have to play it by ear."

As a two-time reigning overall World Cup champion, the 25-year-old who lives and trains in Vail, Colo., has been considered a contender to win multiple medals.

Asked whether she could be forced to sit out altogether, Vonn replied: "Yeah, that's a possibility."

She hasn't skied since getting hurt and said it's even been painful to simply put on a pair of ski boots in her hotel room to test the leg. Vonn said the bruising covers about a 15-centimetre swath of her lower right leg but she refused to get any X-rays to check whether she broke a bone because she didn't want to know. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's Charles Hamelin, left, moves up on Apolo Anton Ohno of the United States during the final of the men's 1000-metre event at the short-track speedskating ISU World Cup in Montreal on Nov. 8. The two are expected to compete for Olympic gold.

Short-track showdown

U.S. superstar Ohno stands between Hamelin and gold

Bring up the name of celebrity skater Apolo Anton Ohno with members of Canada's short-track speedskating team and they will provide no shortage of opinions.

This is clearly someone they've spent time thinking about.

Ohno, who goes into the Vancouver Games threatening to become the most decorated American Winter Olympian in history, will be competing directly with Canadian star Charles Hamelin for medals.

On the web

Learn more about Charles Hamelin in an interactive profile at **metronews.ca/olympics**

That makes for a spirit of grudging respect and subtle hostility towards Ohno, a five-time Olympic medallist with a Hollywood attitude, in the Canadian camp.

"He's all right, he's been better," Canadian speedskater Olivier Jean said nonchalantly.

"He's a skater who really knows the game and is always well placed and has excellent strategies, with a lot of experience, but he's not as dominant physically now compared with the other athletes."

Ohno and Hamelin are rivals, but the two couldn't be more different — at least on the surface.

"Charles is less of a showman, less pretentious, less arrogant," said medal favourite Kalyna Roberge of her teammate.

Ohno is competing at his third Games at age 27. He is one of the best-known amateur athletes in the world, an entertainer whose hip-hop freestyle and paso doble famously took him to the top on the TV show Dancing with the Stars. Requests for interviews with Ohno must go through his agent, rather than US Speedskating.

Hamelin, 25, has become a star in his native Quebec, but remains slightly shy and intensely focused.

After Hamelin and his teammates were eclipsed by Ohno's star power at a 2008 world cup competition in Vancouver, they've worked on raising the profile of the Canadian athletes in time for the Games, where many fans from Ohno's hometown of Seattle will be in attendance.

"(Charles) is more discreet, more Quebecois," team leader Yves Hamelin said of his son.

"It's harder for him to play a role. He's very available, he's going to give back a lot to the sport, and as much to the media as to his sponsors." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Snow coats Cypress but may not last

MOUNTAIN Snow was in the air at Cypress Mountain yesterday, but just how long it stays on the ground and whether athletes will even be able to see it come race day remains unclear.

Ten to 20 millimetres of rain is expected to hit the Olympic mountain tonight, and Environment Canada says another 20 to 30 millimetres could fall later tonight. Ten to 15 millimetres more rain is in the forecast for tomorrow.

Women's moguls is scheduled to kick off Games competition at Cypress on Saturday, and athletes will be forced to contend with an additional 15 to 25 millimetres of rain.

As if the excess precipitation wasn't enough of a headache, race organizers say an even larger problem may be rearing its ugly head.

"Fog's probably the biggest concern. We have to be able to see the start," said Joe Fitzgerald, race director with the International Ski Federation.

"If the judges can't see, we don't go."

Fog rolled on and off the Cypress moguls course during a training session last night. At one point, the fog was so thick the top of the course couldn't be seen from the base. The fog was also an issue at the Whistler ski venue, where poor visibility led men's downhill training run yesterday.

"If it just rains, (the race will) be a go for sure," said American moguls head coach Scott Rawles.

"The x-factor will be the fog. If it gets foggy, that would be the one reason you couldn't run the event since it's a judged event." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Valentine's Day

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

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La Senza microfibre babydoll with garters and bikini panty, $49.50, and **La Senza panties**, top right, $12.50 each or three for $30. For more, go to lasenza.ca.

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GIFTS FOR HIM

These fun boxer shorts are sure to be a hit. "Hello My Name is Mr. Right," top right, is $10 for a pack of two at Walmart. The Hershey's Kisses boxers, left, are $9.97 at Zellers.

Lace babydoll and string panty, $39, **lace corset**, $89, at Jacob. For more, go to jacob.ca.

"Kiss me I'm Canadian" T-shirt, $15. Available exclusively through the Hershey's Kisses Canada Facebook page at facebook.com/hersheyskissescanada until March 19.

Love Is A Game Azzaro Twin fragrance for Men and Women, $35 for 30 mL. Available at Shoppers Drug Mart, shoppers drugmart.ca.

FOR THE TECH-LOVER

These red laptops are the perfect gift for your Valentine this year. The **HP Mini 210**, left, is small enough to fit into most purses. It's available for $399 at Staples, Walmart, Costco and at hpshopping.ca. The **Toshiba NB305 Netbook** boasts a long-lasting battery life. It's available for $459 at major retailers and shoptoshiba.ca.

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Metro Homes

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Reflection in the round, this Horn Wall Mirror is encircled with pieces of natural horn. West Elm, $79, westelm.com.

JENNIFER BILL/FOR METRO CANADA

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

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Batten down **the bedroom**

Homes in **Style**

JENNIFER BILL
for Metro Canada

Typically hiding behind closed doors from those invited over for tea — the bedroom is the most personal space in the house.

"A bedroom is the place where we spend a great deal of time and it's a place of refuge," said Jacqueline Glass, editor of Reno & Decor magazine.

"It's the room that friends and family members see the least, so people can just close the door. But I think it has changed a little bit — people are house proud. The bedroom is now taking on a little bit more dominance."

Whether with bed made and pillows aligned or sheets disheveled and begging to be jumped in, the bedroom is the place you start and end your day, the place to hide, cry or ponder life while cosy and relaxed.

"Bedrooms should be soothing," said Glass, who runs design company Jacqueline Glass and Associates. "With gorgeous linens and lots of Euro shams and a beautiful fabric headboard for the bed you can create a space that is beautiful and inviting to be in."

Glass said to build the bed up, giving it height and amplifying the cushiness factor.

"Take a feather mattress that you lay on top of your mattress, mattress protectors that are quilted, 500 thread-count sheets for that luxurious feel, and a down duvet a size larger than the cover. Stuffing it in (will make the bed appear it is) bigger. It looks all plushy and luxurious."

"Bedrooms should be soothing. With gorgeous linens and lots of Euro shams and a beautiful fabric headboard for the bed you can create a space that is beautiful and inviting to be in."
Jacqueline Glass

Cuddle up cozy with this Sheep Throw, made from 20 per cent polyester, 80 per cent acrylic with a polyester lining. Available in white, beige and black. Urban Barn, $95, urbanbarn.ca.

Inspired by blackbird silhouettes, these decorative Sculptural Birds add a playful touch to a bedroom bookshelf. Cast of aluminum with a bronze finish. Detailed with oversized feet for whimsical appeal. Pottery Barn, $29-$39, potterybarn.ca.

Organize and display each piece with style using the chrome plated metal Bijou Jewelry Tree, with a variety of hooks and a tray at the bottom. Urban Barn, $20, urbanbarn.ca.

This chic Foxed Mirror Table Lamp dazzles over a shapely wood-construction base, topped with a white textured cotton shade for glamorous illumination. West Elm, $199, westelm.com.

Small lamp, big impact. This Round Uplight Table Lamp has a simple silhouette, rendered in natural materials, hand-hammered metal or bone, and topped with a textured white cotton shade. West Elm, $59, westelm.com.

Simple solutions for life's cleaning quandaries

They are the cleaning jobs around the house that can drive even the most ardent neat freak a bit batty — the vase you can't properly wash or the tile grout that isn't as fresh-looking as it once was.

In Real Simple Solutions, the editors of Real Simple magazine are sharing some of their wisdoms, tricks and easy ideas to not only take the elbow grease out of cleaning, but also simplify everyday life using products you already have around the house.

Among their advice is how to use an everyday fabric-softner sheet for more than just preventing dryer cling:

DRAWER SCENTER If fabric-softner sheets make your clothes smell nice in the dryer, just think what they could do in your dresser. Slip a few fresh ones between folded clothes.

THREAD DETANGLER To stop thread from twisting and knotting up, run the threaded needle through a fabric-softner sheet before starting to sow.

JAMES BAIGRIE/REAL SIMPLE SOLUTIONS

Use a fabric-softner sheet to get rid of static cling.

REAL SIMPLE Solutions

Real Simple Solutions ($24.95) is available at **Indigo** and **Chapters**, visit chapters.indigo.ca.

Here are some Real Simple Solutions hints on how easily-found household products can be used to make cleaning easier.

LINT ROLLER
Old Use: Fuzz eliminator
New Use: Lamp-shade duster. Supporting the inside the shade with your free hand, run a lint roller up and down the outside to remove dirt.

DENTURE TABLETS
Old Use: False-teeth freshener
New Use: Vase and decanter cleaner. When residue clings to unreachable spots inside a vase or a decanter, fill the container with warm water and drop in one or two denture-cleaning tablets for every eight ounces of warm water. Let the fizzy solution sit for the time specified on the product's box, then rinse.

ELECTRIC TOOTHBRUSH
Old Use: Smile polisher
New Use: Tile scourer. Dip an old, retired toothbrush head into a solution of all-purpose cleanser and water, and use it to scrub tile grout, bathroom fixtures, and any other nook or cranny a large brush can't reach.

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Style

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

A celeb favourite

Marchesa proves a bona fide fashion house

Marchesa is a glamorous, movie-star fashion house: Its specialty is the show-stopping red carpet dresses you're likely to see on Kate Hudson, Sienna Miller or Annie, known to the rest of us as Anne Hathaway.

The gowns seem a perfect complement to the label's co-founders, Georgina Chapman and Keren Craig, two Brits-turned-New Yorkers who fit nicely into the glitzy fabric of the fashion world, clinking champagne glasses with the A-list of editors, stylists and models who'll attend the Marchesa preview at New York Fashion Week, which starts today. Creative director Chapman is even married to film producer-mogul Harvey Weinstein.

So it would seem that Marchesa had potential to become a vanity project like some other celebrity-socialite collections, most of which have come and gone. Marchesa has more going for it, though, not the least of which is the passion and skill of Chapman and Craig.

The duo had known each other when they were students at Chelsea College of Art and Design in London and talked about having their own collection, probably loungewear.

But as Chapman earned her degree in costume design and Craig in textiles, they and their plan drifted.

However, after working as a both a model and behind-the-scenes costumer, Chapman decided she wanted to be her own boss. They rekindled their friendship and — just like that — Marchesa was born in 2004, except they had nothing really to sell and definitely no business model.

New York Fashion Week begins today until Feb. 18

They did have an invitation to a "smart party," though, Chapman says, and they decided to wear their own designs. Chapman wore a backless sari dress that caught the eye of the late influential fashion editor Isabella Blow, who had a reputation for finding young talent.

Blow asked if she could borrow the dress to wear to the Paris runway shows. Blow also was the one who recommended they stick with eveningwear.

"Once we started, we had so much fun," says Chapman. And, with Marchesa Luisa Casati, the eccentric European style chameleon, as their muse, a vision of a unique brand was emerging.

It was good, if coincidental, timing that their gowns, all one-of-a-kind, started making the rounds to Hollywood stylists just as the weekly celebrity magazines exploded into a huge force in fashion. "We saw the red carpets and saw them as an amazing marketing tool," Chapman says, and they'd carry big suitcases back and forth to Los Angeles.

The buzz started when Renee Zellweger wore a red Marchesa dress to a high-wattage premiere, and it's been one star after another, including Rihanna in a laser-cut leather number and Cameron Diaz in a micro-mini modern tuxedo style.

"Celebrities are drawn to Marchesa because the dresses are ultra-feminine and beautifully made," says Cindy Weber Cleary, InStyle magazine's fashion director.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHOTOS BY ASSOCIATED PRESS

These September 2009 file photos show models wearing spring 2010 gowns by Marchesa during Fashion Week in New York.

Long Legs introduces TallGeneZ brand

Canadian owned Long Legs Fashions for Tall Women has recently partnered with TallGeneZ (tallgenez.com), a unique denim fashion business that specializes in designing jeans specifically for the tall woman. For more information, visit longlegs.ca.

Lady in red

A shade sure to electrify your wardrobe

SOFI PAPAMARKO
for Metro Canada

This month, we'll be seeing red. A lot of it. And it won't just be in the form of Valentines, cinnamon hearts and cellophane-wrapped bouquets.

Forward-thinking fashionistas are embracing red during this — the blah-est — time of year. Metro spoke with two of Canada's foremost fashion experts to find out why red is so hot this season.

"Red is always hot," says Lisa Tant, editor-in-chief of Flare magazine. "It feels particularly 'right' now because it gives off a burst of energy and passion at a dull time of year. It's also a classic look that is appropriate for any age and skin tone."

What if you want to wear red, but you're low on green?

Anne Klein slingback ($125, The Bay

"It's a smart investment when budgets are tight because it electrifies all of the basics in your wardrobe," says Tant.

Anita Clarke, editor and founder of Toronto-based fashion blog I Want I Got, has some tips on how to best wear red:

"Pay close attention to fit," she advises. "Red gowns are truly dramatic but cocktail dresses can be more fun and playful. For either style, I would wear a dress that has (few) details … the colour and a clean silhouette should be the focus of the outfit. I like minimal accessories in a neutral colour, with black being my default."

Scarf ($15.90), Dynamite

If you're not a woman who feels comfortable in head-to-toe red, the vibrant hue also makes a great accent colour. If a crimson gown is not your scene, try accessorizing a dark wool coat or black dress with a carmine purse, scarlet scarf or maybe even a raspberry beret.

GETTY IMAGES

Take a cue from the celebs and embrace red during this blah time of year. Pictured: singer Taylor Swift.

Necklace ($14.90), Dynamite

Wallet clutch ($22), Smart Set

Red satin dress ($139.95), Le Chateau

Add a little *rouge* to your home

Just like red accessories add drama to an outfit, red home accents heat up a room instantly

"Red is a strong, passionate colour and the Voluspa Goji Berry collection … combines the perfect blend of a beautiful red, Japanese floral motif with an elegant fragrance in a clean-burning artisan candle."

Will Moskal, Public Relations Coordinator, Indigo Books

Voluspa Goji Berry hand-poured three-wick tin candle, $24.99, Indigo and Chapters.

A one-of-a-kind tree silhouette is framed by a striking red border in this unique acrylic piece of art. $495, Pier 1.

"Fire Engine Red commands attention. A small accent of vibrant colour is nevertheless mighty in any size space."

Colleen Uncao, Public Relations Manager, Winners Merchants International

High-gloss lacquer side table in Fire Engine Red, $159.99, HomeSense.

"Red is a power colour no matter where you see it, it's the starlet of all colours that instantly brings style and boldness into your home."

Aimee Beatty, Pier 1 Imports Stylist

Red Velvet Dining Chair, $269.95, Pier 1

Red Hot Red laundry machines, starting at $2,699 for the pair, $299 for each pedestal, Electrolux.

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Felton sees Apparition
Tom Felton is teaming up with Ashley Greene for a ghostly new movie. The British actor, best known for playing villainous Draco Malfoy in the Harry Potter films, has signed up to star in spooky story The Apparition, about a young couple haunted by a supernatural presence unleashed during a college experiment. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Entertainment

New Mission
Paramount has confirmed a report from DeadlineHollywood.com that Tom Cruise is attached to star in Mission Impossible IV. He will also produce the film, which is to open in 2011. EW.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Sade still the ultimate in cool

Sade

Album: Soldier of Love
Label: Epic/Sony
Rating: ●●●

SADE'S SMOOTH OPERATOR personified "cool" in the mid-'80s. Twenty five years later, Sade still is still the ultimate in cool, despite the rather obvious military-style drumming on the title track, Soldier of Love. Indeed, it's amazing how little Sade's sound has changed in all that time. Long and lingering vocals stretched out over a snail's pace with an occasional flash of more-than competent musicianship. Lyrically, however, the uber confidence of Smooth Operator has been replaced by mid-life regrets, doubts and outright tears. But it all comes together — strings, horns and all — on the exquisitely paced track In Another Time.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Yeasayer

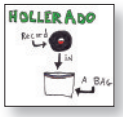
Album: Odd Blood
Label: Secretly Canadian
Rating: ●●●●½

DON'T BE FOOLED by the first track off Yeasayer's latest disc — the haunting, crunchy sounds and deep, crunk-like vocals is a trick. If you can get past that sludgy (though intriguing) tune, you'll discover a world of beautiful electro pop. Ambling Alp is a gorgeous, even inspirational tune ("stick up for yourself son," goes the chorus), while the others songs are thickly layered with electronic instrumentation, rich harmonies, some Graceland-like beats and a lot more. There's rarely a dull second on this fantastic, thought-provoking disc.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Hollerado

Album: Record in a Bag
Label: Royal Mountain Records
Rating: ●●●½



SOUNDGARDEN'S REUNITING, flannel's back in vogue and people are throwing '90s parties, so naturally a band that sounds like it came straight out of the 20th century's last decade is getting a lot of buzz. At least Toronto's Hollerado deserves much of the hype — their Weezer-meets-Strokes-in-a-bar-on-the-East-Coast vibe is extremely catchy. The tracks are all upbeat and fun — an excellent combo for a debut disc like this. They still have some work to do; Fake Drugs sounds too much like Rivers Cuomo, and other songs are lacking in parts, but these guys are on to something.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Soldier of Love is the first studio album from British-Nigerian singer Sade in a decade.

Massive Attack

Album: Heligoland
Label: Virgin/EMI
Rating: ●●●

TWO YEARS AGO Portishead reinvented themselves and left trip-hop behind them. After seven years since their last album, Massive Attack are trying to do the same. Heligoland finds co-founding member Daddy G re-joining mainstay 3-D, but unfortunately this reunion is more 100th Window than Blue Lines. The first half of Heligoland drags like a corpse, with lacklustre vocal turns and beats that expired in the '90s. But Heligoland is a bottom-heavy listen. Guests Guy Garvey and Hope Sandoval resuscitate the flow in the second half with their contributions, while Damon Albarn's Saturday Comes Slow is the kind of sparkling dirge that can realign Massive Attack with their one-time peers.

Cam Lindsay/for Metro Canada

Midlake

Album: The Courage of Others
Label: Bella Union
Rating: ●●½

MIDLAKE HASN'T MADE it a secret that the follow-up to their critically acclaimed Trials of Van Occupanther would be a pretty big departure for the band. And they were right. The Courage of Others is a slow, haunting record that takes a page out of '60s British folk. The Grizzly Bear-like sounds from their last disc aren't gone — they just appear in a different light. The album isn't as immediately inviting as Van Occupanther, but it does get less confusing and more accessible with each listen.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

The Hot Rats

Album: Turn Ons
Label: Fat Possum
Rating: ●●●½

WHILE WAITING FOR their bassist Mickey to recover from a broken back, Danny and Gaz from Supergrass became a duo under the name The Hot Rats. Recorded with Radiohead producer Nigel Godrich, Turn Ons is an album of covers, which as the title suggests is 12 personal favourites spanning the last 40 years. Taking on everyone from Bowie to The Cure, Gaz and Danny apply their Supergrass template and come out with some fresh perspectives, like a space-rock spin on the Beastie Boys' Fight For Your Right. The result is a dozen rave-ups catered for both classic rock and Britpop enthusiasts alike.

Cam Lindsay/for Metro Canada

Album Reviews
music@metronews.ca

Ex-90210 star to appear on Criminal Minds

Former Beverly Hills, 90210 star Gabrielle Carteris will guest-star in an upcoming episode of Criminal Minds. Carteris, 49, will appear in this season's 17th episode, which finds the BAU tracking a highway serial killer. **TVGUIDE.COM**

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Doc trial goes Hollywood

There's no bloody glove this time, no smoking gun, no faded music icon showing up in court wearing a wig that made it look like he plugged his finger into an electrical socket..

GETTY IMAGES

The case of the People vs. Michael Jackson's doctor has taken on the trappings of a full-blown Los Angeles celebrity trial, complete with paparazzi.

There's not even a celebrity for that matter — the person on trial is a doctor no one had heard of eight months ago.

Still, the case of the People vs. Michael Jackson's doctor has already taken on all the trappings of a full-blown Los Angeles celebrity trial, complete with a scrum of paparazzi and news photographers staking out the accused's residence and chasing him everywhere he goes.

The mere rumour that he would be arrested or surrender sent an army of news photographers from all over the world rushing to a courthouse.

So it seems certain that Conrad Murray will join the ranks of O.J. Simpson, Robert Blake and Phil Spector in the pantheon of Los Angeles celebrity defendants, even if he's an obscure Texas cardiologist in a case of medical negligence.

"There are no surprises here. We know how the guy died, we know who allegedly gave it to him. But lacking surprises, it's Michael Jackson. The news shows can play endless loops of Michael Jackson singing. Maybe his children will come into the courtroom, and what a day that would be,'' says Judy Muller, who shared in an Emmy for ABC's coverage of the ultimate celebrity trial, the one that ended with O.J. Simpson being acquitted of murder in 1995.

"I hate to be cynical but I've been here long enough to know how this will play," added Muller. "It's Michael Jackson and it's a celebrity trial, even if it's a dead celebrity, and particularly in Los Angeles it's what we're known for."

Not that a trial involving a dead celebrity, even one as revered as Jackson was, is completely unprecedented. In 1981 a Tennessee jury found Dr. George Nichopoulos not guilty of negligently prescribing drugs to Elvis Presley, whose body contained 14 different stimulants and depressants when he died in 1977.

But, relatively speaking, nobody paid much attention to that.

"That was another age, a much more innocent time," says Los Angeles media consultant Jonathan Taplin. "You didn't have a 24-7 media machine that feeds on celebrity, that feeds on raising up celebrities and then bringing them down."

It also occurred outside of Los Angeles, a media hotbed for sensational celebrity trial coverage since an August night in 1969 when a band of Charles Manson's social misfits broke into Sharon Tate's home and stabbed the actress and her friends to death. Since then there have been the trials of actor Blake, acquitted of shooting his wife to death after taking her to dinner at his favourite Italian restaurant; of pioneering pop music producer Spector, convicted of fatally shooting actress Lana Clarkson after meeting her at a nightclub; and the grandaddy of them all, Simpson's acquittal of stabbing his ex-wife and her friend to death.

Even Jackson's own trial in nearby Santa Barbara County in 2005, during which he was acquitted of child-molestation charges, rates high on the celebrity scale, with fans marvelling as he danced atop his SUV outside the courthouse one day and showed up in his pyjamas on another.

Just how the Jackson doctor trial, in which Murray is charged with involuntary manslaughter, will stack up against those depends on some intangibles.

If the judge who hears the case decides to let TV cameras into the courtroom, for example, that will likely ratchet up interest quite a bit.

"We have a somewhat interesting example of that in the Phil Spector case,'' said former federal prosecutor Jean Rosenbluth.

Spector was tried twice for murder, his first trial ending with a hung jury.

With cameras allowed into the courtroom, people tuned in to watch as Spector arrived each day in his funny wigs and 1960s-style mod clothes.

But when cameras were banned from the second trial interest waned until the verdict came in.

"Michael Jackson is Phil Spector times two million," laughed Rosenbluth, adding the King of Pop's influence was so great and his death at age 50 so devastating to his worldwide fan base that interest could be huge.

There are already more than a dozen Jackson Facebook fan groups, in several languages, with titles like "I Hate Conrad Murray" and "Arrest Conrad Murray." On Twitter, the Murray tweets from news organizations and private citizens alike pour forth by the minute.

As big as Jackson was, though, it seems doubtful his doctor's case can overshadow Simpson's murder trial. For one thing, notes critical studies professor Todd Boyd, who has written extensively on pop culture and race relations, there's no divisive racial issue this time, as there was when Simpson's lawyers argued he was framed by a racist police officer who planted a bloody glove at his house.

For another, a lot of people thought going into that trial Simpson was guilty.

He had numerous domestic disputes with his ex-wife before she and her friend were violently ambushed.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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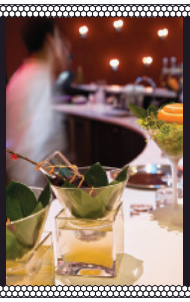

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Oscar winner diagnosed with cancer

Oscar-winning actor Louis Gossett Jr. has been diagnosed with prostate cancer, the actor announced on Tuesday. The 72-year-old won an Oscar in 1982 for his role in An Officer and a Gentleman. TVGUIDE.COM

Percy Jackson is a kid with an epic secret

It's a tough task launching a CGI-packed adventure only weeks after animation spectacular Avatar becomes the biggest grossing movie ever.

Even if the director is Harry Potter heavy weight Chris Columbus.

But Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief, has a secret weapon: Logan Lerman, a blue-eyed 18-year old ready to set teenage girls' hearts aflutter worldwide.

"I'm really proud of this movie, and I'm ready to be recognized," a relaxed Logan Lerman tells Metro at London's fashionable Gloucester Palace hotel.

Alongside him on the podium are assorted members of the star studded crew, including Pierce Brosnan, Steve Coogan and Kevin McKidd.

Despite his youth, Lerman has already starred with Mel Gibson twice (The Patriot and What Women Want). And Chris Columbus found what he was looking for in his leading young man in the western 3:10 to Yuma.

Columbus sees a future box-office superstar in Lerman and calls him a 40-year-old person in a 17-year-old body.

"I started very young," Lerman says. "I'm from Los Angeles and there's always an audition for some commercial just around the corner."

"Lerman plays a troubled high school student who stumbles across an astonishing secret: He's the son of Greek god of the oceans, Poseidon."

PHOTO PROVIDED

Logan Lerman plays the son of a Greek god in Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief.

In Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief, Lerman plays a troubled high school student who stumbles across an astonishing secret: He's the son of Greek god of the oceans, Poseidon (Kevin McKidd).

And it gets worse. He is suspected of stealing bad tempered Zeus' lightning bolt and is hunted by monsters and gods alike who want to prevent the outbreak of war.

Percy sets out on a quest to prove his innocence and rescue his mother who has been kidnapped by (Steve Coogan). The movie is based on Rick Riordan's best sellers that mixes Greek mythology with 21st century U.S.A. (The portal to Olympus is on the Empire State Building and the way to hell goes via Hollywood).

Percy quickly learns sword-fighting and how to control his power over water, both inherited from his absent father.

Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief opens Friday

He is brought to Camp Half-blood where other children of "Gods who have fallen in love with humans" are taught how to survive as demigods.

It looks a lot like summer camp, but with lethal ancient weapons.

Percy does some intense sword-fighting with budding love interest Annabeth (Alexandra Daddario), who is the daughter of Athena and no push-over.

"We only really had one fight and we didn't want to hurt each other.

"It was kind of stiff so to make it look better I let her hit me, and it looked great," Lerman recalls.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Ellen hits the right note

TV Fans took to the Internet to express their pleasant surprise over the 52-year-old funnylady's debut as the singing competition's fourth judge.

Ellen DeGeneres assumed her judging panel post for Tuesday's episode chronicling the first round of Hollywood Week, the cutthroat post-audition phase in which 181 contestants will be narrowed down to 24 semifinalists.

The majority of folks posting about DeGeneres on Twitter praised her performance. Some said they were only tuning in for DeGeneres, but not everyone was a devotee. A denim ensemble worn by Degeneres, also host of The Ellen Degeneres Show, was mocked by a few Tweeters.

When Fox announced that DeGeneres, an Emmy winner with no formal music experience, would be the new judge last September, fans were divided over the unlikely replacement for Paula Abdul, the sugary sweet pop singer who judged Idol since it debuted in 2002 then left amid contract negotiations after the eighth season ended last year.

GETTY IMAGES

Ellen DeGeneres

"So this is it, huh? I come on, you leave."

Ellen DeGeneres to fellow judge Simon Cowell

"Ellen completely met my expectations," said Dave Della Terza, founder of VoteForTheWorst.com, which encourages viewers to champion bad — but entertaining — singers.

"She was trying way too hard. Her critiques weren't funny because no one wants to see a standup act at the judges' table."

But Andy Dehnart, editor of the popular reality TV blog www.realityblurred.com and a lecturer at Stetson University, said DeGeneres seemed "more polished and on-point than the people who've been sitting at that table for eight years." DeGeneres is on the judging panel alongside Simon Cowell, Randy Jackson and Kara DioGuardi.

"Ellen DeGeneres keeps surprising us," he said. "She excels as a talk show host, and if she keeps up what she did tonight, she'll easily establish herself as the best judge."

DeGeneres' addition comes at a time of change for the aging Fox franchise, which is produced by 19 Entertainment and FremantleMedia North America. Cowell is leaving at the end of the current season to judge and executive produce an American version of The X Factor, a talent show he created in Britain. DeGeneres didn't let Cowell off for the move.

"So this is it, huh?" she whispered to him after joining the panel. "I come on, you leave."

Several names have been bandied about as potential Cowell replacements but Fox and the show's producers have not announced a replacement for the acerbic British judge.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Family matters

TV For a good cause, NBC stars, including Amy Poehler and Peter Krause and anchorman Brian Williams, are weighing in on what parenthood means to them.

The network has joined with the Boys & Girls Clubs of America in a campaign intended to promote discussion about parenthood and raise funds for the group's Family Strengthening Initiative.

Amy Poehler

For each person who finishes the sentence "Parenthood is... " for submission at The Parenthood Project website, NBC will contribute $20 US to the initiative. The network, which launched the site Tuesday, said it's committed to donating $100,000.

Poehler, who stars in the NBC comedy Parks&Recreation, concluded that parenthood is "something funny happening every day," while Williams called it "as rewarding as anything in life."

NBC isn't being entirely altruistic: The network has an upcoming series, Parenthood and is weaving promotion of the show in with the campaign.

The hour-long drama, based on the 1989 movie of the same name, debuts 9 p.m. EST on March 1. Its ensemble cast includes Krause, Lauren Graham, Craig T. Nelson and Bonnie Bedalia.

NBC is passionate about the series and wants to generate interest in it, but also saw a chance to "achieve our goals and do some good along the way" by teaming with Boys&Girls Clubs, said Adam Stotsky, president of NBC Entertainment Marketing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Campbell keeps walking catwalk

Naomi Campbell has no intention of giving up modelling. The 39-year-old beauty — who was one of the '90s supermodels — wants to continue with her life on the catwalk because she still gets a thrill out of doing it. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Final show sees Trump 'fire' Leno

It's lights out for prime-time experiment

Jay Leno ushered out one of television's biggest flops without sentiment on Tuesday, the final night of a prime-time experiment doomed by bad ratings and bad vibes.

Leno told a few barbed jokes about The Jay Leno Show, and Donald Trump told him "you're fired." Leno will return to his old perch at the Tonight show after the Olympics.

Desperate to keep both Leno and Conan O'Brien, NBC gave Leno a show five nights a week at 10 p.m. EST and made O'Brien the Tonight show host. The Jay Leno Show was one of the boldest scheduling moves in years, but the size of Leno's audience — while fine for late night — couldn't cut it in prime time.

Late news shows following Leno on NBC affiliates dropped sharply in the ratings. With some affiliates threatening to yank Leno, NBC proposed cutting his show to a half-hour at 11:35 p.m. and moving O'Brien back a half-hour. O'Brien refused and took a buyout from NBC.

"This show was supposed to be on for two years, but we got five months for good behaviour."
Jay Leno

"It seems like just yesterday I was telling NBC this was not going to work," Leno said in his final monologue, and it wasn't clear he was joking.

"This show was supposed to be on for two years," Leno said, "but we got five months for good behaviour."

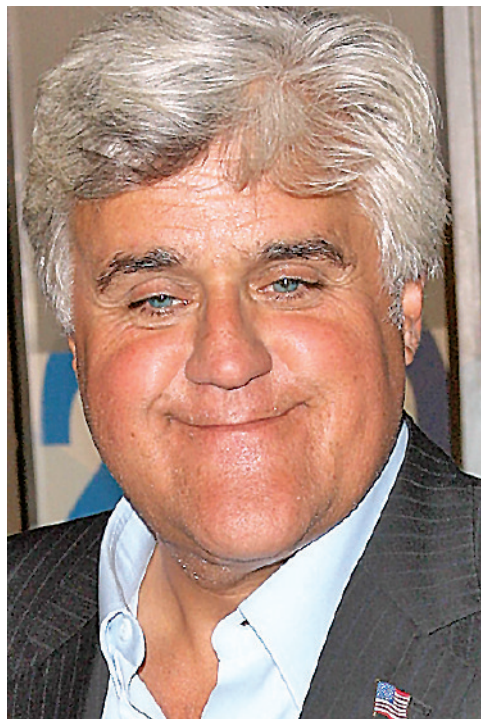
Leno said he should have known it wasn't going to last, and he showed a film of him pulling his car into a parking space that said, Jay Leno, No Parking After Feb. 9.

Actor Ashton Kutcher was a guest, and recently retired pro football quarterback Kurt Warner was brought on to throw a few passes to him. Actress Gabourey Sidibe came on to talk about her best actress nomination for the Academy Awards.

Leno didn't talk about the Tonight show move. The studio set, if it's kept, will require some changes: the number 10 is now inlaid onto the stage where Leno stands to deliver his monologue.

When the show ended, there wasn't any time to say goodbye. A question-and-answer session with NBC Sports anchor Bob Costas appeared to run long, and Leno barely had time to urge his viewers to stay tuned for the late local news.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The Jay Leno Show is over, but the talk show host will return to The Tonight show next month.

Anne Rice readies new video book

Rice

Anne Rice is giving the video book a try.

The author of Interview With a Vampire, The Vampire Lestat and many other favourites has agreed to terms with the video book company Vook on a multimedia edition of The Master of Rampling Gate, a vampire story published in Redbook magazine in 1984 and set in an England mansion in the 19th century.

"Vook represents a very exciting combination of new technological elements, that I think is long overdo in publishing," Rice said in a statement. "I'm excited that The Master of Rampling Gate is going to have new life in this form, and cannot wait to see the finished product. I'm not sure that my mind can conceive of all the possibilities of this new form."

Opinions are still mixed among publishers and authors about video books, which integrate text, video and social networking.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Deadliest Catch captain Harris dies

Harris

PEOPLE Phil Harris, the fishing boat captain whose adventures off the Alaska coast were captured on the cable television show Deadliest Catch, has died, the Discovery Channel said. He was 53.

Harris suffered what his family described as a massive stroke on Jan. 29 while the fishing vessel he captained, Cornelia Marie, was in port at St. Paul Island, Alaska. The fisherman was flown to Anchorage for surgery. The reality show, which has filmed five seasons, has been one of the Discovery Channel's most popular and depicts the crab fishing industry in the dangerous waters off Alaska. "It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to our dad — Captain Phil Harris. Dad has always been a fighter and continued to be until the end," sons Josh and Jake Harris said in a statement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 2/11/10	251	308	3 CBC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	The Nature of Things (N)		Google World (N) (CC)		CBC News: The National (N)		(:05) The Hour
	254	-	8 OMNI	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Omni News: Mandarin Edition		News: Cantonese Edition		Omni News: Punjabi Edition		The Simpsons
	250	321	9 CTV	(6:00) CTV News (N) (CC)		CSI: Crime Scene Investigat'n		Grey's Anatomy (N) (CC)		The Mentalist (N) (CC)		CTV News
	-	-	10 JOY	Frasier (CC)	The Insider	Stargate SG-1 (CC)		Supernatural (N) (CC)		P3	Diya (CC)	New Day
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Survivor: Heroes vs. Villains (Season Premiere) (N) (CC)				The Office	The Office	News
	256	389	12 VI	TMZ (N) (CC)	Access H.	Monk (CC)		Past Life "Dead Man Talking"		Private Practice "Love Bites"		A News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	The Office	The Office	Community (N)	Parks/Recreat	30 Rock	30 Rock (N)	Dark Blue (CC)		EP Daily
	-	-	14 CW	The Office	The Office	The Vampire Diaries (N)		Supernatural (N) (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Survivor: Heroes vs. Villains (Season Premiere) (N) (CC)				The Mentalist (N) (CC)		KIRO 7 News
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Community (N)	Parks/Recreat	The Office (N)	30 Rock (N)	The Office	The Office	KING 5 News
	602	568	19 W	Supernanny (CC)		Love It or List It		Confidential	Confidential	Divine Design	House-Sell	Love It-List It
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	The Deep End (N) (CC)		Grey's Anatomy (N) (CC)		(:01) Private Practice (N)		KOMO 4 News
	-	-	26 KVOS	M*A*S*H "Lil"	Seinfeld	He Said, She Said ★★ (1991) Kevin Bacon, Nathan Lane.				Seinfeld	King	Cheers (CC)
	291	383	27 PBS	Field Guide	Steves Europe	Doc Martin (CC)		Performance at White House		Bonekickers (CC)		Soundstage
	290	382	28 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Bones (PA) (CC)		Past Life "Dead Man Talking"		Q13 FOX News at Ten (N)		Family Guy
	-	364	43 PBS	Performance at White House		Red Green	Being Served	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		Old House	Hometime
	296	654	54 SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	The Office	Name Is Earl	South Park	Half & Half	Paid Program	Street Court	Cold Files
	298	653	55 TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	The Vampire Diaries (N)		Supernatural (N) (CC)		KTLA 5 News at 10 (N) (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	56 WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	According-Jim	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Maury (CC)	
	297	652	57 WPX	PIX News at Ten Tong. (N)		Two/Half Men	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	According-Jim	Family Guy	South Park	Scrubs (CC)
	199	311	76 STR	CTV News	NTV Latenight News		Late Show W/Letterman		Late Late Show/Ferguson		Inside Edition	Seinfeld
news	502	390	29 NW	The Nature of Things (CC)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		The Nature of Things (CC)		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	Sportsnet	NHL Hockey Vancouver Canucks at Florida Panthers.					Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Basketball
	400	400	30 TSN	(6:30) SportsCentre (Live) (CC)			Off the Record	24/7 Jimmie	Motoring 2010	Sid vs. Alexander		SportsCentre
	411	457	49 OLN	Ghost Hunters International		Destination Truth (CC)		Operate-Repo	Operate-Repo	Ghost Hunters (CC)		Ghost Hunters
	410	403	54 SCR	Champ Fight	NBA Basketball San Antonio Spurs at Denver Nuggets. (Subject to Blackout)					Score Now		Final Score
	417	406	55 SC	(6:00) NASCAR Racing Sprint Cup: Duel at Daytona.					NASCAR Victory Lane		Speed Performance Awards	
	416	409	144 GLF	Fútbol						Gol TV News	Gol TV News	Gol TV News
family	552	543	25 YTV	iCarly (CC)	Fries That?	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	To Be Indie	Prank Patrol
	555	545	50 TEL	6TEEN	6TEEN	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	King of Hill	Sleepy Hollow ★★★ (1999) Johnny Depp.		
	557	541	51 FAM	Sonny Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
	553	546	53 TRE	Babar (CC)	Zigby	Max & Ruby	Dragon	Backyard	Ni Hao	Go, Diego, Go!	(:35) Franklin	Comfy Couch
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Frontiers of Construction		New York: A Documentary Film (CC) (DVS)				The Women of Sanne Sannes		Beautiful
	575	583	20 CMT	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	UnStable (N)	Star Crossed	Amer. Funniest Home Videos		Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	According-Jim
	570	580	24 MM	Degrassi: TNG	Degrassi: TNG	MuchOnDemand (CC)		Pimp My Ride	My Own	Video on Trial	disBAND	Video on Trial
	600	564	25 H&G	House Hunt	House	Holmes Inspection Fireplaces.		House-Bryan	Real Renos	Holmes on Homes (CC)		House
	615	520	61 A&E	Manhunters	Manhunters	Manhunters	Manhunters	(:01) The First 48 (CC)		(:01) The First 48 (CC)		Manhunters
	628	584	62 SPKE	(6:00) TNA iMPACT! (N)		TNA Epics "Sting" (N)		MANswers	GameTrailers	MANswers	MANswers	Mysteries
	521	560	34 TLC	Trashmen (N) (CC)		American Chopper (CC)		Trashmen (CC)		American Chopper (CC)		Saw for Hire
	616	522	63 SHO	Relic Hunter (CC)		A Valentine Carol (2007, Romance) Emma Caulfield. (CC)				Cra$h & Burn "Closure"		Law Order
	620	523	40 BVO	(6:00) Intern Academy ★		Law & Order "Angel" (CC)		Without a Trace "The Source"		Intern Academy ★ (2004) Peter Oldring.		
	601	562	41 SLC	Re-Vamped (CC)		ET Canada	What	Real Housewives of Atlanta		Real Housewives OC		Runway
	520	505	42 DIS	MythBusters (CC)		Daily Planet (CC)		MythBusters (CC)		MythBusters (CC)		MythBusters
	522	506	44 HIS	Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	Ancient Discoveries (CC)		Ancestors	Ancestors	Nostradamus Effect (CC)		Carrier
	627	528	45 SPC	Lost "What Kate Does" (N)		InnerSpace	Stargate SG-1 (CC)		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Star Trek: Voyager "Tattoo"	
	294	650	47 TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	Lopez Tonight (N)		Name Is Earl	Name Is Earl	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	Lopez Tonight
	619	525	48 TROP	Reality	Whatever	Family Guy	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	'70s Show	King	Comeback
	603	561	52 FN	Ace of Cakes	Ace of Cakes	Restaurant Makeover (CC)		Diner, Drive-In	Unwrapped	Extreme Cuisine-Jeff Corwin		Ace of Cakes
	-	-	53 AMC	Man on Moon	Movies Shook	(:15) Escape From L.A. ★★ (1996, Action) Kurt Russell. (CC)				(:15) Cutthroat Island ★★ (1995) (CC)		
	626	547	57 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Martin	Sarah	Daily Show
	320	621	60 CEN	(6:20) Darfur Now ★★★ (CC)		Love Comes Lately ★★ (2007) Otto Tausig.			Anvil! The Story of Anvil ★★★ (2008)			Pathology
	581	566	101 MTV	Taking, Stage	MTV Cribs	MTV Live	Movie Night	The Real World (CC)		Taking, Stage	MTV Cribs	MTV Live
	261	394	102 V	(6:00) French Kiss ★★ (1995) Meg Ryan.		Recreat. Eden		August ★★ (1996, Drama) Anthony Hopkins, Kate Burton.				Paid Program
	-	-	106 MUL	My Queen	Immortal	Vancouver	Shaktimaan	Dheeyan Ghar	Sadabahar	Connections	Desi Rhythms	Patrol World

critics'corner

Survivor: Heroes vs. Villains

Deja vu, anyone? The latest incarnation of the hit competitive reality series brings back 20 memorable players from past seasons, divided into — well, see the title. The Heroes team includes past winners James "JT" Thomas Jr. and Tom Westman, while the Villains have past Sole Survivors Parvati Shallow and Sandra Diaz-Twine. Jeff Probst returns as host. 5 PM on STR

Community

Remember, kids, drinking and dialing don't mix. In this new episode, Jeff (Joel McHale) tries to repair his relationship with Britta (Gillian Jacobs) after an awkward incident with a drunken phone call. Speaking of awkward, Chang (Ken Jeong) is in for some humiliation at the hands of Annie and Shirley (Alison Brie, Yvette Nicole Brown), who are looking to defend Troy and Pierce's (Donald Glover, Chevy Chase) dignity in "'Communication Studies." 8 PM on NBC

Loblaw going sustainable
Loblaw, parent company of Real Canadian Superstore has removed all fish deemed to be "at risk" or unsustainable, from its superstore chains, and will be bringing in sustainable options as they are available. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Urban Foodie

Put your heart into V-Day

ANYA LEVYKH
anya.levykh@gmail.com

Churros with Spanish chocolate at Dulcinea

Go handmade and haute this Valentine's Day

There is nothing like the cliché of roses and a box of chocolates to let that special someone know you care — at the last minute. Think quality over quantity, and always keep in mind the preferences of the object of your gift and affections.

Xoxolat

This lovely little shop is all about the organic and fair-trade beans, with a dose of single origin to spice things up. Choose from truffles like caramel fleur de sel, chipotle cinnamon, Kashmir cardamom and lemon ginger, and then wrap up the lot in of their beautiful bamboo gift boxes. (xoxolat.com)

Dutch Girl Chocolates

Organic, fair trade, and handmade in the back of the shop (you can see the action through the open window), the truffles at Dutch Girl are made for guilt-free pleasure. Bonus for vegans—Dutch Girl makes several dairy-free truffle varieties. (dutchgirl.shawbiz.ca)

Cocoa Nymph

The handmade truffles here are delightful — try Lucy in the Chai and Chariot of Fire — but their chocolate bars, like the white chocolate and dried cherry, are to die for. They also make old-fashioned English brittle toffee and other handcrafted treats. (cocoanymph.com)

Dulcinea

You won't find truffles here, but what you will find is chocolate treats like the crushed biscotti chocolate balls, churros served with warm Spanish dipping chocolate, and cupcakes that will cause you to go into a sugar-induced vibrational tizzy. They are also doing choco-grams this Valentine's. Available right up to the 14th, the café will call your recipient and have them come and pick up their treat and special message. (dulcineachocolate-cafe.com)

Thomas Haas

Justifiably famous in Vancouver — and around the world — for his handmade chocolates, confections and pastries, Thomas Haas is still churning out his famous truffles and chocolate sparkle cookies by hand. Try the milk chocolate truffle perfumed with Champagne and eau de vie, or the dark chocolate with lemon zest and thyme. (thomashaas.com)

Dining out

SHOWCASING SEAFOOD Miku Restaurant (1055 West Hastings St.) will be offering special sashimi "Podium Platters," showcasing seafood from the Tsukiji Fish Market in Central Tokyo. Offerings include yellowfin, flounder, red snapper, and amberjack. Choose from Bronze, Silver and Gold platters, $60-$150 each. Call 604-568-3900 for reservations.

ANYA LEVYKH/
FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Global Peasant blog online

- Travel along with Diane Thompson's culinary adventures in her Global Peasant blog.
- Check out metronews.ca/globalpeasant for a recipe of Lime Sugar Cookies

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And — surprise! — he looks like a baby

Supermodel Gisele Bundchen, 29, shows off the first photo of her baby boy, Benjamin, in Brazilian mag Quem. The two-month-old is all bundled up in a blue jacket and matching hat while dozing off in Bundchen's arms, femalefirst.co.uk reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Paris is for lovers ... of Johnny's style

ONE THING UPON WHICH THE FRENCH AND THE REST OF THE WORLD AGREE From the long, stringy hair and goatee to the layers of offbeat accessories and everything in between, nobody can quite pull off a look like Johnny Depp — especially as far as his longtime girlfriend Vanessa Paradis is concerned, people.com reports.

"I love his style, yeah, yeah, yeah!" Paradis told People magazine. "I love him, and I don't have to say I like this and I don't like that. When you love somebody, you take them as they are. I would not change him."

Besides Depp's eclectic style, the French singer and actress, 37, is attracted to all the qualities of her beau (since 1998). "I like him very much in all terms and every sense of the way," she said. "He makes me happy. We are many things — we are together and, in a way, one person."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Channing shows Ellen how to strip

AND FROM NOW ON ALL HER GUESTS MUST DO THE SAME (EXCEPT RUSH LIMBAUGH) American Idol judge Ellen DeGeneres seemed rhapsodic at having her talk-show guest Channing Tatum demonstrate some of the moves he made in his former job as a male dancer on her show yesterday, people.com reports.

"What kind of dancer were you, Channing?" DeGeneres asked Tatum, 29. "I was a stripper," replied the Dear John star, prompting loud applause from the in-studio audience. And so, Tatum demonstrated what men strippers do — though, not a thread was removed. Still, said Tatum, "Now I'm embarrassed."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

SAMANTHA RONSON doesn't like people saying she abused Lindsay Lohan, **JOHN MAYER** is feeling romantic, **EDDIE IZZARD** refuses to age, and **KIRSTIE ALLEY** is susceptible to advertising.

@samantharonson To ANYONE who perpetuates this rumour accusing me of being violently abusive after @lindsaylohan has denied it: I WILL take legal action.

@johncmayer What's that song that goes "It's a quarter after one, I just huffed a can of ceiling paint and I need you now?" I like that one.

@eddieizzard Apparently it's my birthday. I'm twenty two (as usual). Thanks for all your messges

@kirstiealley oh my god, all these infomercials are causing me mass confusion ... then I want them all

METRO WORLD NEWS

Sheen 'committed' to making marriage work

HOW MANY SYNONYMS ARE THERE FOR THE WORD 'RUUUUUUN'? Now that the court drama stemming from their Christmas morning fight is over, Charlie Sheen and Brooke Mueller are reportedly hoping to fix the problems in their marriage. "Charlie and Brooke already are going through intense marriage counseling and Charlie has been very religious about attending Alcoholics Anonymous meetings and serious anger management counseling," a source tells the Chicago Sun-Times.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Is Hilton secretly engaged?

THE LIZ TAYLOR OF FIANCEES Paris Hilton may already be engaged to Doug Reinhardt and just waiting to announce it, and if so she may have just tipped her hand.

The heiress was accepting an award for her charity work at a benefit in Los Angeles when she said, "I'd like to thank my future sister-in-law Casey Reinhardt," according to E! News.

Hilton, who has been dating Reinhardt for a year, has hinted that a wedding may be in the works, saying last month, "I wouldn't rule out a wedding in 2010. With how amazing everything is going between us, I see a very bright and happy future."

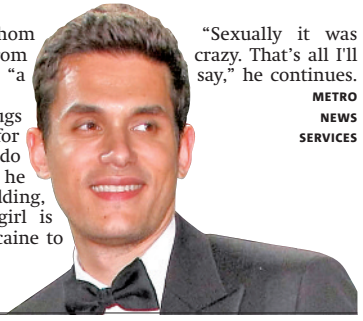
METRO WORLD NEWS

Mayer dishes on sex with Jessica

STAY CLASSY, MAYER John Mayer is kissing and telling — again, usmagazine.com reports. In its exclusive peek at Playboy's March issue, the website reports the singer, 32, dishes on everything from his past relationships with Jessica Simpson and Jennifer Aniston to his dream mate.

He dubs 29-year-old Simpson (whom he dated from 2006 to 2007) "a drug."

"And drugs aren't good for you if you do lots of them," he says, adding, "Yeah, that girl is like crack cocaine to me. "Sexually it was crazy. That's all I'll say," he continues.



METRO NEWS SERVICES

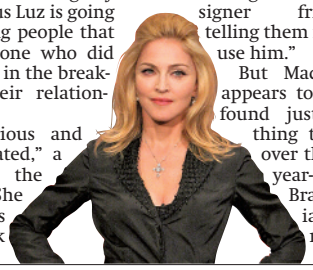
Madonna ditches boytoy, eyes more recent model

HE WAS GETTING TOO OLD FOR HER Madonna is allegedly livid that Jesus Luz is going around telling people that he was the one who did the dumping in the breakdown of their relationship.

"She's furious and feels humiliated," a source tells the Daily Mail. "She feels he has her to thank for his modeling success and is calling all her designer friends, telling them not to use him."

But Madonna appears to have found just the thing to get over the 23-year-old Brazilian model. She's reportedly been getting cozy with 24-year-old Spanish model Jon Kortajarena after meeting him late last year.

"She has made some enquiries about him and has found out a bit more about some of his future modeling gigs in a bid to use her influence to his advantage," the source says.



METRO WORLD NEWS

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Stern contemplates Idol takeover

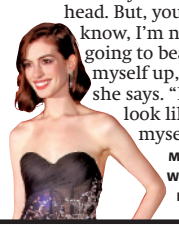
FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS: MORE BOOBS, LESS SINGING Howard Stern insists producers have not actually made him an offer to take over for Simon Cowell on American Idol, but that doesn't mean he isn't considering it.

"You know what? OK. $100 million to judge a karaoke contest? "OK. Why not? Oprah takes every offer on the table, why shouldn't I?" Stern said on his radio show.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Anne's self-reflection

OH, NO ANNE, YOU'RE *SOOO* PRETTY It turns out Anne Hathaway's toughest critic is herself. The Valentine's Day and Alice in Wonderland star laments her looks in the latest issue of In Style magazine. "I think I've got really weird features. I have very large features on a very small head. But, you know, I'm not going to beat myself up," she says. "I look like myself."



METRO WORLD NEWS

The Weather Network TWN incorporates MSC data
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Friday 70% Rain 9° / 8°
Saturday 90% Rain 11°/ 7°
You have voted us #1 for best forecasts on TV. Thank you Canada!

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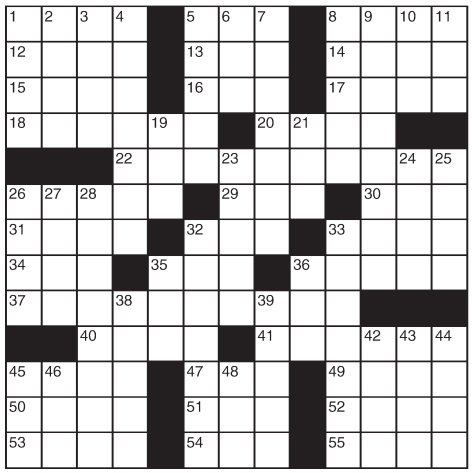
Take Five



ACROSS

1 Fungus product
5 Enthusiast
8 Small combo
12 Duel tool
13 Blond shade
14 Maintained
15 Approach
16 Crossword clue abbr.
17 Regulation
18 Green
20 Ids' counterparts
22 Beach pastime
26 Normand or Mercer
29 Sweet potato
30 Greet the villain
31 Hawkish Olympian
32 Energy
33 Spill the beans
34 Roulette bet
35 Garfield's owner
36 Kid napped?
37 SoCal teen of the 1980s
40 Tittle
41 Inconsequential person
45 Decline
47 31-Across, e.g.
49 Curved molding
50 With 46-Down, well in the past
51 Lamb's mommy
52 Caspian Sea feeder
53 Dresses in
54 Harrison or Reed
55 Vend

DOWN

1 Options list
2 Admitting clients
3 Mad king of literature
4 Develops (from)
5 Bellybutton
6 — Today
7 Early hour
8 Pulsate
9 Having a second life?
10 Under the weather
11 Worshipper's writing
19 Vote seeker
21 Workout venue
23 Fibbing
24 Burden
25 Earring site
26 Sportscaster Albert
27 Vicinity
28 Sheets
32 It was launched in 1977
33 Round, as a nose
35 Lustrous black
36 "No seats" abbr.
38 Wind-blown soil
39 Alphabetized list
42 Fairy tale villain
43 Option from Howie Mandel
44 Scream
45 Bankroll
46 See 50-Across
48 Have bills

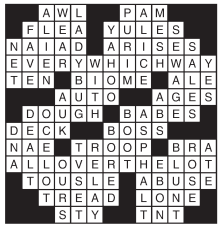
Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

4								9
2			5		4			8
		8	7	9	1	3		
	2		6		7		8	
	7						3	
	9		3		5		2	
		2	1	5	3	6		
5			2		6			3
7								5

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



3	1	7	2	8	4	9	6	5
2	4	8	6	5	9	1	3	7
6	9	5	3	7	1	2	4	8
5	8	6	9	1	3	4	7	2
9	7	2	5	4	6	8	1	3
4	3	1	8	2	7	6	5	9
1	2	4	7	9	5	3	8	6
8	5	3	1	6	2	7	9	4
7	6	9	4	3	8	5	2	1

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

MANON TREMBLEY

Healthy Home-Cooked Chili

Submitted by Stacey Graham, Vancouver, B.C.

INGREDIENTS:

1 tbsp olive oil
2 clove garlic, minced
1 small onion, diced
1 tbsp fresh thyme and rosemary (optional)
1 pound lean ground beef
1 teaspoon chili powder
1/2 cup tomato paste
1 can tomatoes, chopped, drained
1 can red beans
1 can corn
1/3 cup fresh cilantro, chopped
1/2 cup cheddar cheese, shredded
1 ripe avocado, sliced
1 cup nacho chips

METHOD:

1. In a frying pan add olive oil, onion, garlic, thyme, and rosemary. Add beef and cook until browned.
2. Meanwhile, put corn and tomatoes into a large pot and cook over medium heat. Add tomato paste, beans, cilantro and chili powder. Stir in beef mixture.
3. Cook until heated and flavours mix together.
4. Garnish with cheddar cheese and avocado pieces sprinkled on top. Serve with a side of nacho chips.

SERVES 6
PREP TIME: 15 MINUTES
COOK TIME: 30 MINUTES

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Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

sallybrompton.com For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Whether it is you keeping secrets from others or others keeping secrets from you there will certainly be plenty of deception going on.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
You know what you want and you know how to get it but it might still be wise to get as many people on your side as you possibly can.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
It will pay you to be a little less intense today, especially when dealing with employers and people in positions of power.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
You should not find it too hard today to forgive someone who says something less than flattering about you.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
You have been revealing too much about yourself to colleagues and strangers of late and it is time to be a bit more mysterious.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Get on top of your workload today and, more importantly, stay on top of it for the rest of the week.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Everyone has doubts about what they have done and what they should have done but did not.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Venus, planet of love, moves into one of the best areas of your chart today, making it easy for you to get things done.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Even the little things you do today will have far-reaching effects, especially on the home front.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Communications are likely to be disrupted in some way today but there is no need to panic because it is only a minor blip in what is otherwise an excellent outlook.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Have the courage to follow a course of action that not everyone in your social circle is likely to approve of.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Venus in your sign will endow you with a more relaxed take on life over the next few days. Things that annoyed you in the past no longer matter.

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